嘘喰い
27
迫稔雄

CHAPTER 285
PLAYING ON A BOAT

KAKEROU REFEREE?

INTER-ESTING.

.....

DEFINITELY CALL THEM, IF THERE IS SUCH A CONVENIENT THING.

WHERE IS THAT REFEREE?

SO?

.....

I WOULD WISH FOR NOTHING BETTER THAN BEING ABLE TO CLEARLY RESOLVE THIS ISSUE WITH A MATCH.

TSK.

THIS GUY...

SOMEONE WILL COME IF I CALL THEM. IN A FEW MINUTES AT MOST.

IT WILL BE MY WIN IF THE REINFORCE-MENTS COME.

HE JUST DEALT ME A GREAT HAND HERE... I SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY SOME TIME GOING WITH HIS STORY.

WHO...

S-SERI-OUSLY?

IS THIS WOMAN ...?

KAKEROU ...

MOGAMI TAEKO.

REFEREE NUMBER 91,

NO.91...

THE *QUEEN, MOGAMI ...

*91(KU-I) IN JAPANESE SOUNDS A BIT LIKE THE ENGLISH WORD "QUEEN".

THEN JUST COME OUT RIGHT NOW!!

WHAT'S SO URGENT ANYWAY!?

SO THIS BOAT WAS REALLY... JALLOUD? DON'T MISREAD THE SITUATION, I'M NO ENEMY!

OI!!

GET OUT OF THERE!!

HOW LONG ARE YOU PLANNING TO STAY IN THERE, BASTARD!?

WHAT?

WHERE ARE THE OTHER GUYS?

?

OI!

WHAT HAPP-ENED!?

AH, AIN'T THEY LOOKING FOR THE CON-TAINERS?

!

TSK.

WHERE IS EVERYONE AT SUCH A TIME?

SO YOU GO AND TELL THIS TO THE CAPTAIN. BY THE WAY, YOU ARE...?

RIGHT NOW I CAN'T LET HIM GO.

THIS GUY SUDDENLY SEPARATED FROM THAT OOFUNA GUY, SO I COULDN'T TELL THE CAPTAIN...

ONE OTHER GUY ALSO CAME ON BOARD.

ANYWAY, YOU CAME AT THE RIGHT TIME.

GRAB

GYAI

BUMP

!

?

.....

WHY IS HE... DOWN ...?

I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY!! .....? .....??

LE- LET ME GO!!

!

EEK!

AH!!

BEEP BEEP BEEP

GI- GIVE ME MY PHONE BACK!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!!

Y-

YOU ARE!!

HAVE YOU BEEN TALKING TO?

WITH WHO

IT'S FROM THE TIME WHEN YOU FOLLOWED US BY CAR AFTER WE LEFT THE FAMILY RESTAURANT.

THIS CALL FROM 40 MINUTES AGO.

IN ORDER TO OFFSET THAT MONEY, THE PERSON YOU WILL CONTACT IN THE END,

THE 100 MILLION YEN THAT YOU LOST...

I ALREADY KNOW.

ACTUALLY,

W-

WHO KNOWS!

AND FINALLY, I'M AFRAID IT'LL BE CONVEYED TO "A HIGH LEVEL IN THE MOD"...

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE REVIEWED ONE AFTER ANOTHER STARTING FROM THE MAN YOU CALLED.

MEANING, THERE'S A HIGH CHANCE THAT THE SUPPORT REQUEST SENT BY GAKUTO HAS BEEN INTERCEPTED ALREADY.

KU!

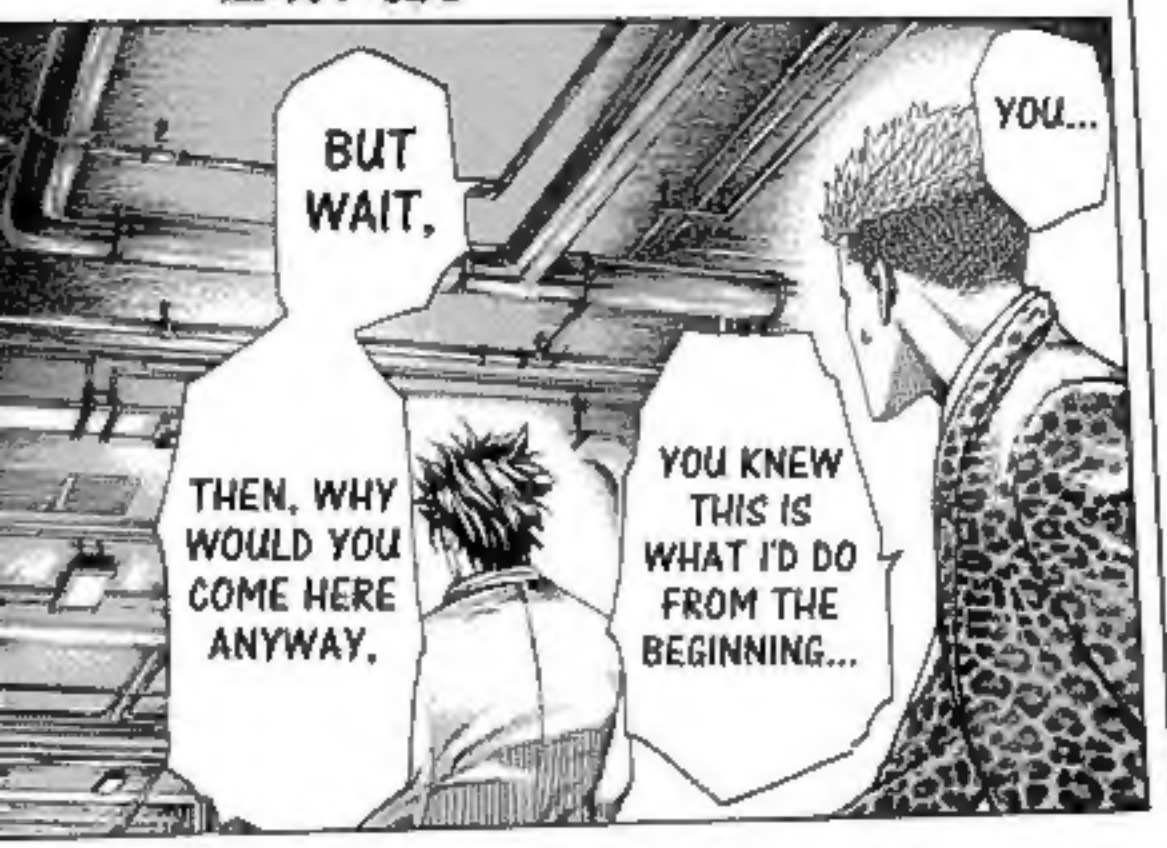
A POWERFUL PERSON WHO'S WELL RELATED TO THIS CASE.

WILL BE THE PERSON WHO REQUESTED YOU TO DO THIS WEAPON SMUGGLING...

WHETHER THIS GOES WELL OR NOT, THIS IS ABOUT ALL YOU ARE ABLE TO DO NOW.

YOU COVERED UP THE FACT THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SPIT OUT THE INFORMATION, ONLY TELLING HIM THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE INVESTIGATING THE BOAT AND THE SMUGGLING, AND HOPED THAT YOU CAN GET SOME SUPPORT FROM HIM.

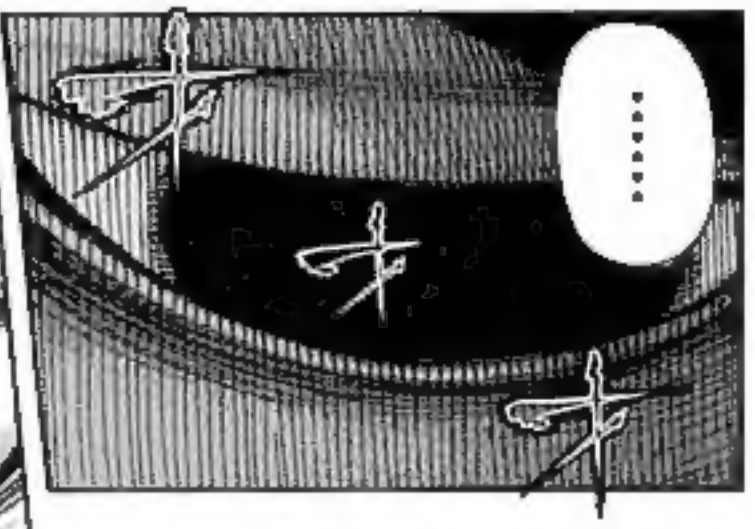
嘘嘘いぶ。


BUT WAIT,
THEN, WHY WOULD YOU COME HERE ANYWAY.
YOU KNEW THIS IS WHAT I'D DO FROM THE BEGINNING...
YOU...

I SHOULD CHANGE THE METHOD FOR DOING THIS...
SINCE A REFEREE HAS COME...
BEEP
BEEP

KNOWING THAT THE REINFORCE-MENTS WOULDN'T EVEN COME...?

.....
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT,
WITHIN SUCH A SHORT TIME...


.....

THERE IS NO ISSUE AS LONG AS WE LEAVE IT TO THE ACIA, WHICH WAS SECRETLY ESTABLISHED BY KAKEROU.

A... ACIA!?

HOW EXACTLY... WILL YOU PROVIDE US A SAFE PLACE FOR THE MATCH?

AH, THIS, IS AN EASY ONE.

EVEN IF THE REINFORCE-MENTS ARE NOW ON THEIR WAY HERE...

PRRR

PRRR

SHIT... JUST ACCEPTING THIS MATCH SOMEHOW SEEMS...

KA... KAKEROU... IF... IF WHAT SHE SAID IS REAL... WHAT THE HELL IS KAKEROU...?

DON'T TELL ME THE TOWER INCIDENT WAS ALSO...

HOW DOES SHE KNOW THE ACIA?

THIS WOMAN ...

NO HELP COMING

KIDOU INTERFERED SO WE CAN'T EXPECT HELP ANYMORE.

GAKUTO, ACCEPT THE MATCH.

DON'T LET LACY READ YOU.

ERASE THIS E-MAIL.

HA... HACHINA!!

!

EXCUSE ME.

NO HELP COMING

NOW LET'S DECIDE THE RULES.

THIS GAME WILL BE...

WAIT!!

RIGHT?

OKAY, NOW I UNDER-STAND THE SITUATION.

THIS MATCH WILL BE HELD BETWEEN "CAPTAIN LACY" AND "OOFUNA-SAMA", ACTING AS A REPRESENTATIVE FOR KAKEROU MEMBER KAJI, WHO'S CURRENTLY BEING HOSTAGE...

VOJA, TAKE THESE TWO OUTSIDE!

THESE TWO ARE A DISTUR-BANCE.

WAIT A SECOND!

WAI-

HUH?

I WANT TO DECIDE THIS WITH THE 3 OF US ONLY, INCLUDING YOU, REFEREE.

I HAVE SOME CONDITIONS FOR THIS MATCH.

WHAT IS IT?

PLEASE

.....

THINK ABOUT THE SITUATION YOU ARE IN NOW.

KAJI-SAMA,

WE CAN'T DO THAT! I NEED TO HEAR IT...

MATCH...? WHAT IS HAPPENING... WHAT SHOULD I DO?

THIS GUY,

IS USED TO THIS KIND OF SITU-ATION.

I DON'T CARE MUCH ABOUT NOT HAVING THE MATCH, YOU KNOW.

I

I DON'T REALLY CARE...

HE LEVERAGED THE SITUATION QUITE WELL.

RIGHT NOW,

THE CAPTAIN GOT RID OF US AND MADE ONLY HIMSELF STAY AT THE ROOM. .

SLAM

THIS IS TO AVOID ME, WHO'S A KAKEROU MEMBER, DOING SOMETHING WHILE DECIDING THE RULES,

NO, IT MAY GO EVEN FURTHER THAT THIS... THE CAPTAIN PROBABLY KNEW ALREADY ABOUT KAKEROU'S EXISTENCE.

AND ALSO SO HE CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE WHILE DECIDING THE RULES WHILE HAVING OOFUNA-SAN, WHO'S NOT THAT EXPERIENCED IN THIS SITUATION, AS THE ONLY OPPONENT...

AND HE CALMLY AND CUNNINGLY USED THIS LAWLESS SITUATION...

IT CAN'T BE HELPED...

HE OVERTURNED THE TABLE IN ONE MOVE.

BEFORE THE RULES ARE DECIDED, IT'S A LAWLESS SITUATION RIGHT NOW,

WHO CAN KILL US ALL IF HE DECIDES TO GIVES UP ON HIS GOAL.

THIS IS AN OPTION THAT CAN ONLY BE DONE BY THE CAPTAIN,

IT'S NOW A DANGEROUS 1 VS 1, EVEN FOR ME.

THEN,

RIGHT NOW,

WE JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE IN OOFUNA-SAN.

IT WILL BE OVER QUICKLY.

I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT YOU HAVING A GUN OR NOT.

IF HE FINDS IT, HACHINA'S PRESENCE WILL PROBABLY BECOME KNOWN IMMEDIATELY.

I HAVE THE TRANS MITTER ON ME.

.....

WHAT?

IN ORDER FOR ME TO FEEL SAFE, I'D ALSO LIKE TO PERFORM A BODY CHECK ON YOU.

IT SEEMS YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON YOU...

HMM.

BEH, I DON'T WANNA SEE THAT .

IF YOU WANNA DO IT ON ME TOO, YOU CAN GROPE MY BODY AS MUCH AS YOU WANT

WHY IS THIS BIG MELON HEAD NAKED BY THE WAY?

YES, JUST LIKE THAT.

OKAY .. NEXT, LEAN AGAINST THE WALL AND RAISE YOUR HANDS.

嘘嘘いる。

KU KU...

KUKU KUKU.

WE COULD MAKE THE BEST OF NECKTIES.

.....

KUKU.

BY THE WAY... YOU HAVE QUITE A LOVELY CHIN UP THERE. IF YOU ALSO HAPPENED TO HAVE A LOVELY TONGUE, THEN...

.....

THEN,

LET ME PROPOSE THE GAME.

WHAT IS THIS...?

I HATE EXPLAINING THINGS,

SO I'LL JUST SAY IT ONCE. YOU MIGHT EVEN RECORD IT IF YOU WANT TO.

THERE ARE FOUR SHAPES IN THE BOTTOM LEFT OF THE PANEL, RIGHT? THESE ARE SHIPS.

AND SUB-MARINE. 4 TYPES.

DES-TROYER,

CRUISER,

BATTLE-SHIP,

THEN YOU DRAG IT LIKE THIS.

TOUCH

YOU TOUCH A SHIP.

FIRST,

ON THE RIGHT PANEL.

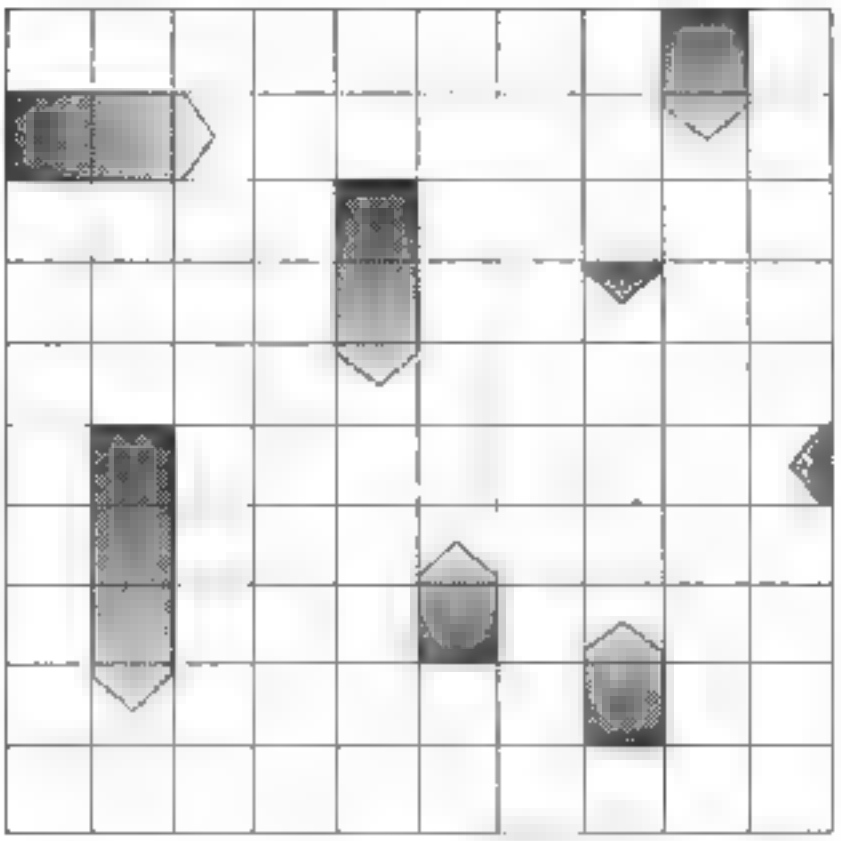
AND PLACE IT

HOWEVER PLACING THEM DIAGONALLY LIKE THIS IS FORBIDDEN.

THERE IS A RULE FOR PLACEMENT.

YOU CAN PLACE THEM AS YOU WISH FACING UP, DOWN, LEFT OR RIGHT,

FORMATION ON THE BOARD.



THEN YOU CAN PLACE YOUR

ATTACK

THEN, YOU AIM AND ATTACK.

PLAYERS CANNOT SEE THE PLACEMENT OF THE OPPONENT'S SHIPS.

嘘喰い㉕。

ONCE THERE IS A MISS, THE OPPONENT WINS THE RIGHT TO ATTACK.

MISS

YOU CAN KEEP ATTACKING UNTIL YOU MISS.

BATTLESHIPS, WHICH ARE 4 CELLS LONG, NEED TO HAVE ITS 4 CELLS ALL HIT TO BE DESTROYED.

IF THE ATTACK HITS A SHIP HIDDEN IN THE CELL, THE TYPE OF THE SHIP WILL BE EXPOSED.

SUBMARINES, WHICH ARE 1 CELL LONG, WOULD BE FINISHED IMMEDIATELY HOWEVER, THIS IS DIFFERENT FOR OTHER SHIPS.

WINS THE GAME.

GOING ON, THE ONE WHO CAN DESTROY ALL OF THEIR OPPONENT'S SHIPS FIRST,

SO STUPID, ISN'T THIS THAT FAMOUS OLD GAME...

WE... WE WILL SETTLE THINGS... WITH SUCH A CHILDISH GAME...?

THE NAVAL STRATEGY GAME;

BATTLE-SHIP!?

CHAPTER 286

IMPLANT INDIRECT PARASITE

OR DELIVER A "VOLLEY OF FIRE",

WHICH HITS 5 CELLS AT ONCE.

THE "SINGLE SHOT",

WHICH HITS ONLY 1 CELL.

ATTACK

YOU CAN ATTACK THE ENEMY WITH TWO DIFFERENT TYPES OF ATTACK.

MEANING, WE CANNOT PINPOINT THE SHIP'S LOCATION EVEN IF WE HIT IT, EXCEPT FOR SUBMARINES, AS THEY ARE 1 CELL LONG.

UNTIL HE DESTROYS THE SHIP.

ONE SHOT HIT A DESTROYER.

HOWEVER, THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE. THAT IS TO SAY, THE PLAYER WILL NOT KNOW WHICH ONE OF THE FIVE SHOTS HAS HIT,

IN THE CASE OF HITTING A SHIP WITH A VOLLEY OF FIRE, THE TYPE OF SHIP HIT WILL BE DISCLOSED JUST AS FOR SINGLE SHOTS.

THIS IS...

BATTLE-SHIP.

AND HAVE TO EARN THE RIGHT OF FIRING A VOLLEY WITHIN THE GAME.

MOREOVER, PLAYERS CAN ONLY DO SINGLE SHOTS IN THE BEGINNING.

FOR EXAMPLE... VOLLEY FIRING 2 TIMES TO HIT 10 CELLS.

YOU CAN USE ALL YOUR RIGHTS AT THE SAME TIME,

THE PLAYER WILL GET THE RIGHT AFTER HE DESTROYS MULTIPLE SHIPS WITHIN THE SAME TURN. 2 SHIPS, 1 VOLLEY. 3 SHIPS, 2 TIMES.

CHAPTER 286
IMPLANT INDIRECT PARASITE

IT WILL BE DIFFERENT FOR ATTACKING.

THE PLACEMENT OF SHIPS WILL BE DONE THROUGH THIS TABLET, BUT,

KU KUKU.

ATTACKING THE SHIPS WILL BE DONE...

THROUGH TOUCH ON THESE SCREENS.

THE LACK OF IMPARTIALITY IS SO OBVIOUS!

KU KU KU.

I'M SORRY, OOFUNA-KUN

THESE DEVICES AND THE SYSTEM PREPARED BY YOU ARE TOO SUSPICIOUS!

WHAT A JOKE! SETTLING MATTERS WITH SUCH A GAME IS RIDICULOUS. MORE IMPORTANTLY,

?... WHAT'S UP, OOFUNA-KUN?

S STOP MESSING WITH ME!!

JUST SAIL AWAY AND DO WHATEVER I LIKE TO YOU

BUT YOU DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE. DON'T FORGET THAT I CAN...

SHOULD BE ARRIVING SOON.

THE LACK OF FAIRNESS IN THE SYSTEM.

OOFUNA-SAMA, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT

THEY

SO? I DON'T SEE ANY PRO-BLEM?

MORE IMPORTANTLY, MOGAMI-SAMA IS SHINING AS USUAL!

YOU COPIED QUEEN'S STYLE, DIDN'T YOU!?

AH, THAT'S NOT FAIR!

CUSTOMI-ZING THE SUIT IS LIMITED TO 2 ITEMS!

AH, THAT FRILL IS SO CUTE!

OKAY~

OKAY GIRLS, TIME TO WORK.

NO MORE CHIT-CHAT.

FAIRIES.

AND WILD,

PRETTY,

FUFU...

CUTE,

GIRLS, TODAY YOU ARE ALL...

KYA~!! I GOT WARNED BY QUEEN!!

AH...

MINE.

!

ALL,

EACH TABLET IS 100% STAND-ALONE.

WE HAVE CHECKED THE SYSTEM.

MEANS THEY'RE GONNA DO THIS AND THAT!!

GETTING INVITED TO QUEEN'S HOUSE.

WHAT THE, WHAT THE, WHAT THE ..!?

.....

GULP...

WHISPER

THAT'S NOT FAIR~

YES.

Y-

YOU, COME TO MY MANSION TONIGHT.

THERE IS NO TRICKERY IN THE SYSTEM, RIGHT?

MEAN-ING.

FROM THIS SYSTEM.

SHIP PLACEMENTS WILL BE INPUTTED THROUGH A LAN CABLE CONNECTION TO THE PANEL.

ALL NETWORK CONNECTIONS HAVE BEEN CUT.

THE PANEL IS ALSO STAND-ALONE, AND CANNOT BE ACCESSED EXTERNALLY... WE CAN SAY THAT THERE WILL BE NO LEAK OF INFORMATION,

.....

I HAVE ALSO RECORDED THE RULES.

YES, THE RULES EXPLAINED BY THE CAPTAIN ARE 100% ACCURATE.

THAT'S GOOD TIMING. KEEP THE SITUATION LIKE THIS, AND LISTEN...

GAKUTO?

PRRR

CLICK

WAIT. LET ME CONFIRM THE RULES ONE MORE TIME.

OOFUNA-KUN,

STOP MESSING AROUND, THE MATCH IS NOT OVER YET.

THE GAME WILL START FROM THERE. IF I WIN, WE CAN LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. SMOOTHER LIKE THIS, RIGHT?

FIRST OF ALL, I'LL HAVE ALL THE CONTAINERS LOADED ON BOARD.

KUKU... SO OOFUNA KUN. SHALL I HAVE YOU DISCLOSE THE LOCATION OF THE HIDDEN CONTAINERS?

WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

DON'T LOSE IT HERE.

GAKUTO,

DON'T ACCEPT IT, MAKE A PROTEST.

KAKEROU WILL MAKE SURE THE SHIP DOES NOT LEAVE UNTIL THE MATCH IS OVER.

DON'T WORRY, OOFUNA-SAMA.

EVEN IF THEY LOAD THE CONTAINERS,

AND, I'M SORRY BUT I CANNOT TRUST THIS GAME'S SYSTEM AFTER ALL.

...I CAN'T HAVE YOU LOAD THE CON-TAINERS.

FIRST OF ALL, START DENYING THE GAME SYSTEM.

LACY IS STILL AFRAID OF THE ARRIVAL OF HELP... EVEN IF HE ACTS STRONG, HE SHOULD BE WANTING TO DECIDE THE RULES AND TO LET KAKEROU START THE MATCH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I WON'T NEED TO WORRY THAT HE'LL "CHANGE THE POSITION OF HIS SHIPS".

I NEED A "100% GUARANTEE" THAT,

WE'RE GOING TO USE HIS SYSTEM, SO I'M NOT GONNA BACK DOWN ON THAT.

.....

SOMETHING LIKE A VIRUS, HUH. THIS HAS ALSO BEEN CHECKED THOROUGHLY.

FOR INSTANCE, SOMETHING LIKE CHANGING ONE'S SHIP POSITION DURING THE GAME, COULD BE POSSIBLE WITH THE HELP OF A SPECIAL SOFTWARE INSTALLED IN THE SYSTEM, RIGHT?

I CAN'T TRUST THAT.

NO,

LISTEN,

ALL WORDS EXCHANGED HERE ARE NO MORE THAN MERE LIES TO ME.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

I DON'T EVEN TRUST YOU AT ALL TO BEGIN WITH.

OF COURSE, WE WILL BE THE GUARANTORS OF THIS, AND WILL RECORD THE POSITION OF EVERYONE'S SHIPS.

OOFUNA-SAMA,

I AM A POWERLESS EXISTENCE HERE, SO AT LEAST,

.....

THIS IS THE ENEMY'S BOAT, HIS TERRITORY.

LOOK OUTSIDE THE BRIDGE.

.....

I WANT "IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE" OF IT.

CAPTAIN LACY,

.....

WE CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS, REFEREE.

HOW MANY CONTAINERS WITH WEAPONS ARE THERE?

...20. WHY?

!

FROM NOW ON, I'LL PRESIDE OVER THIS MATCH.

THEN, I'LL HAVE MY GIRLS LOAD THEM UP ALL ON THE BOAT.

OOFUNA-SAMA,

IF YOU HAVE AN ISSUE WITH THIS, WE WILL RETREAT IMMEDIATELY.

BEFORE, YOU SAID THAT YOU DO NOT TRUST US, BUT,

THERE IS NO NEED FOR US TO HAVE YOUR TRUST... YOU WILL HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO TRUST US...

LET'S GO!

GET OUT THE WAY, FILTHY MEN!

!

?

WHEN THE MATCH ENDS.

.....

COLLECTING THE CONTAINERS, CHECKING THE CONTENTS, AND LOADING THEM ABOARD.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE MATCH ARE DONE WITHOUT ISSUES, REFEREE!!

NOW,

WHISPER WHISPER

OOFUNA-SAMA... AND CAPTAIN LACY,

LET'S CONFIRM THE RULES.

1 BATTLESHIP,
2 CRUISERS,
4 DESTROYERS,
2 SUBMARINES.
THESE ARE
THE UNITS
EACH ONE OF YOU
WILL RECEIVE.

2

2

1

4

THE GAME IS
BATTLESHIP.

US,
KAKEROU,
WILL ONLY
ENSURE
THAT.

THE DEVICE
AND THE RULES
CONFORM
100% TO THE
CAPTAIN'S
EXPLANATIONS.

THE GAME
WILL BE
PLAYED HERE
IN THE BRIDGE,
AND ANY
VIOLENCE
TOWARDS
"PLAYERS"
IS PROHIBITED.

INTER-
VENING
INTO
ANYTHING
ELSE
OTHER THAN
THE MATCH
PLAYED
ON THIS
BRIDGE.

US,
KAKEROU,
HAVE NO
DUTY OF

IN OTHER
WORDS,
THERE ARE
NO RULES
EXCEPT
USING THIS
SYSTEM TO
PLAY THE
GAME.

MEANING,

IS OF NO MATTER TO US.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU COULD DO

IF CAPTAIN LACY WINS, THE BOAT IS TO "LEAVE THE PORT IMMEDIATELY".

MEANING, WE WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH CAPTAIN LACY, OOFUNA SAMA, KAJI-SAMA AND YOKOI-SAMA AFTERWARDS.

THEN, "THE BOAT" AND "THE CAPTAIN", AND "ALL CONTAINERS LOADED UP HERE" ARE TO STAY, AND NOT LEAVE THE PORT.

HOW YOU WANT TO CONFISCATE OR ARREST THEM IS UP TO YOU.

ABOUT OOFUNA-SAMA'S VICTORY.

FIRST OF ALL, WE'LL HAVE "CAPTAIN LACY RELEASE KAJI SAMA AND YOKOI-SAMA", AND ASSURE "NO HARM WILL BE DONE TO THE 3 OF YOU"

ALRIGHT...

MATCH

THE BATTLE-SHIP

START!!

CHAPTER 287
START THE MATCH

IN OTHER WORDS, THERE ARE NO RULES EXCEPT USING THIS SYSTEM TO PLAY THE GAME.

US, KAKEROU, WILL ONLY ENSURE THAT.

THE DEVICE AND THE RULES CONFORM 100% TO THE CAPTAIN'S EXPLAN-ATIONS.

US, KAKEROU, HAVE NO DUTY OF INTERVENING INTO ANYTHING ELSE OTHER THAN THE MATCH PLAYED IN THE BRIDGE.

I ONLY NEED TO CHECK

IF IT GROWS INTO THE BUD I EXPECT.

AFTER-WARDS,

THE SEED HAS BEEN PLANTED

.....

SO, LET'S DECIDE WHO WILL GO FIRST.

WELL THEN.

HEADS OR TAILS, COULD YOU PLEASE CHOOSE ONE?

LET'S DECIDE IT WITH A SIMPLE METHOD, FLIPPING A COIN.

KU KU...

TAILS.

HEADS.

A FEW MINUTES AGO.

NOW I UNDERSTAND THE RULES, OOFUNA-SAN.

HAVE YOU PLAYED BATTLESHIP BEFORE?

I DON'T KNOW HIM.

I REALLY DON'T KNOW HIM, OOFUNA.

YOU'RE DISTRACTING ME!

BY THE WAY, WHO ARE YOU?

I KNOW!!

IT'LL BE DANGEROUS IF YOU PLACE THEM TOO CLOSELY

THE ONE WHO GOES FIRST HAS MORE ADVANTAGES!! YOU HAVE TO GO FIRST!

AH, WATCH OUT WHERE YOU PLACE THE SHIPS

KU KUKU.

.....

THE GAME'S SYSTEM WAS PREPARED BY THE CAPTAIN.

AND THE FACT THAT HE HAS THESE DEVICES ON HIS BOAT, IT MEANS HE'S VERY FAMILIAR WITH THIS GAME.

.....

THERE SHOULD BE SOMETHING THAT'S HIDDEN

TO CAPTURE THE PREY...

NO... NOT ONLY "FAMILIAR".

THERE SHOULD BE SOMETHING ELSE...

!

IN THIS MATCH... EXCEPT THE RULE, "PLAYING WITH THIS GAME SYSTEM",

YES... AND THEN REPLACE THE SHIPS.

WHISPER

OOFUNA-SAN, THERE'S A CAMERA BEHIND US.

WHAT?

EVERYTHING IS ALLOWED.

IF THE CAPTAIN TRIES TO SEE YOUR PLACEMENTS WITH THAT CAMERA, HE WILL ONLY GET FALSE PLACEMENTS.

NOW SHOW YOUR PLACEMENTS OF THE SHIPS TO THE CAMERA... AND THEN TURN YOUR BODY AROUND NATURALLY...

DON'T LOOK AT THE CAMERA!!

OF COURSE, THE ENEMIES ARE THINKING THE SAME...

USE EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE USED.

WE HAVE TO

THAT'S WHAT THIS MATCH IS...

.....

AND MAKE EVERYTHING A STEPPING STONE TOWARDS VICTORY

OBSERVE EVERYTHING CAREFULLY,

YOU'RE WORRYING ABOUT IT, HUH?

WHAT?

.....

IS ALSO...

COULD IT BE...

THAT THIS HOUSE-PLANT...

"COULD IT BE

THAT THERE'S A CAMERA IN THAT PLANT?" THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, RIGHT?

YOU CAN JUST ASK THE PLANT...

BUT IF YOU ARE REALLY THAT WORRIED ABOUT IT,

DON'T TOUCH THAT PLANT.

YOU COULD SAY THAT CREATURES SUCH AS HUMANS DEPEND ENTIRELY ON PLANTS TO LIVE.

COMPARED TO FILTHY HUMANS, PLANTS ARE MUCH MORE NOBLE.

BUT I GUESS A BIGOTED PERSON LIKE YOU COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND.

WON'T LIE.

PLANTS

IF YOU TAKE CARE OF IT WITH YOUR LOVE, IT WILL BECOME YOUR GOOD FRIEND, AND ANSWER EVERYTHING YOU ASK.

DOES IT HURT?

I'M ASKING YOU IF IT HURTS.

YOU LITTLE ...

I'D IGNORE THE RULES AND ATTACK YOU IMMEDIATELY.

AFTER YOUR LOVELY PLANT GOT TORN APART?

IF I WAS YOU,

WHAT'S WRONG? THAT'S YOUR REACTION ...

THIS COUNTRY.

I LOVE

SO CHEAP?

IS YOUR LOVE

I'LL DEFINITELY

I WILL NEVER FORGIVE SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO RAMPANTLY FEATHERS HIS OWN NEST, AND STEALS THE SECRETS OF MY COUNTRY.

TO JAIL.

SEND YOU

.....

TAILS.

CAPTAIN LACY GOES FIRST.

"GOING FIRST",

I KNOW ADVANTAGES ALONE CAN'T DETERMINE THE OUTCOME OF THE MATCH,

I'M VERY FAMILIAR WITH THIS GAME.

BUT UP UNTIL NOW...

!

KU...

OOFUNA-KUN,

ALTHOUGH IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT THE ONE WHO GOES FIRST...

HAS MORE ADVANTAGES IN THIS GAME.

IN THE GAMES WHENEVER I WENT FIRST.

I'VE NEVER LOST,

TOUCH

SPLASH

.....
HUMPH!

BEEP

MISS

JUDGING FROM THE ODDS, IT'S UNNATURAL IF YOU HIT A TARGET IN THE 1ST ROUND, RIGHT?

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT,

TSK

TSK

OOFUNA-KUN~

"NEVER LOST"

YOU SAID?

I THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT BE A CONVINCING ACT... AND HESITATED ON WHETHER I SHOULD TOUCH THAT CELL.

FOR AN INSTANT,

WHEN I WAS GOING TO TOUCH THE SCREEN, YOU GUYS LOOKED RELIEVED.

IS THAT YOU GUYS ARE THE TYPE OF PEOPLE WHO SHOW THEIR EMOTIONS EASILY.

NOT RIGHT HERE...

WAS BECAUSE I COULD INSTEAD DO IT SLOWLY WITHOUT GETTING DISTURBED AFTER THE MATCH ENDS

THE REASON I DIDN'T DO THAT,

!

DON'T GET ME WRONG,

UNDER MY APPEARANCE, I'M ACTUALLY A PERSON WHO DOESN'T EASILY SHOW HIS EMOTIONS.

I ALMOST LOST CONTROL AND ATTACKED YOU.

AT THAT TIME,

I KNEW HE WOULDN'T HIT A TARGET IN THE 1ST ROUND,

HUMPH...

BUT I STILL COULDN'T HELP TAUNTING HIM... I'M STILL NOT USED TO THIS SITUATION...

BUT MAKE A HOLE RIGHT HERE.

DID HE DO ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS ...?

CALM DOWN... HE MISSED.

I'LL TIE YOU A LETHAL NECKTIE.

ALRIGHT.

IT'S OOFUNA-SAMA'S TURN.

NO MATTER WHAT.

I HAVE TO WIN...

I HAVE TO HIT A TARGET.

HIT SOME-THING ...

嘘嘘いお。

AND THESE SHIPS ARE PLACED ON THE FIELD.

THE NUMBER OF CELLS ARE 10X10, 100 CELLS.

THE ODDS OF HITTING A SHIP IS 1 IN 5.

IF I CHANGE THEM INTO THE NUMBER OF CELLS THEY OCCUPY, IT ADDS UP TO 20 CELLS.

NO,

HM.

KUKU,

CAN'T YOU REACH IT, OOFUNA-KUN?

I CAN REACH IT, BARELY.

I DIDN'T WANT TO PLACE THEM AT THE CORNERS OR ON THE SIDES.

WHEN I WAS PLACING MY SHIPS,

HEY,

I WANT TO TOUCH THE TOP ROW, CAN'T YOU LOWER THE SCREEN DOWN?

BUT HE CAN ALSO DO IT THE OPPOSITE WAY ON PURPOSE... WHAT SHOULD I DO ..?

AND IN ORDER NOT TO BE HIT, PLACING THE SHIPS SPREAD OUT IS VERY IMPORTANT.

AS I THOUGHT... I'M NOT GOOD AT THIS KIND OF GAME.

I CAN'T READ HIS MIND.

KU...

PEEK

PEEK

PEEK

PEEK

PEEK

PEEK

SPLASH

TOUCH

SINCE IT'S THE 1ST ROUND, I SHOULD GO SAFE.

.....

NEVER MIND, I CHOOSE THIS ONE.

DON'T WORRY, OOFUNA-SAN. IT'S HIS TURN NOW.

KU!

WE'LL ALSO STAY AT THE CORNER, SO HE CAN'T READ US.

OKAY.

JUST LOOK AT YOUR OWN BOARD SO HE WON'T BE ABLE TO READ YOUR MIND

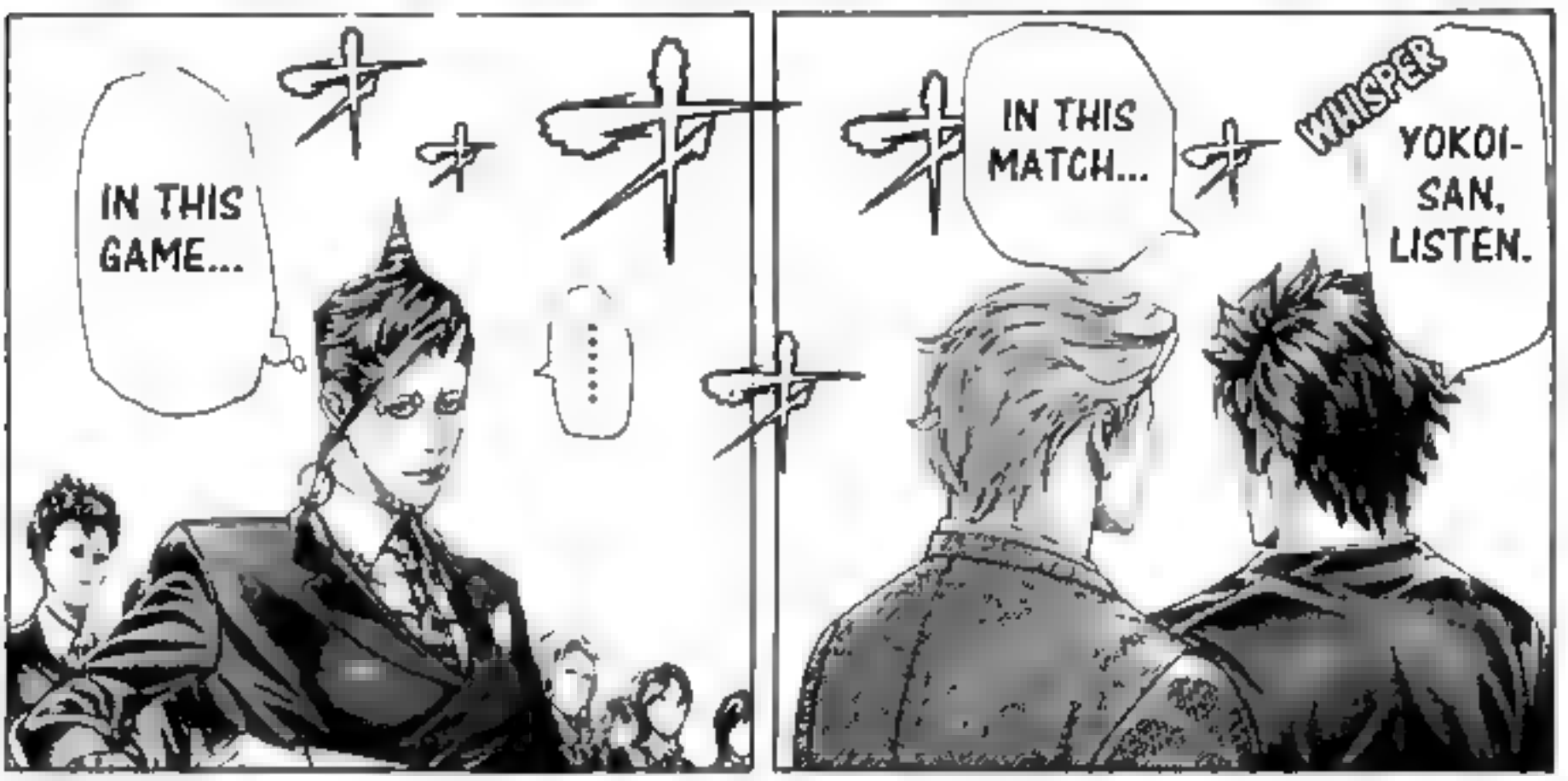
MISS

X

嗟嗟い奇。

THE SEED HAS BEEN PLANTED.
KU KUKU.
KU...

OR THE HOSTAGES... I'LL WIN THIS GAME.
YOU CAN'T PROTECT ANYTHING... WHETHER IT BE THE SECRETS,


IN THIS GAME...
.....
IN THIS MATCH...
WHISPER
YOKOI-SAN, LISTEN.

THE SITUATION IS 7:3,

IT'S MORE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR THE CAPTAIN NOW.

IN THIS MATCH,

THERE'S A WAY TO NOT LOSE.

WHAT?

ONLY WHEN OOFUNA-SAN WINS,

WE, THE HOSTAGES, WILL BE RELEASED.

ABOUT OOFUNA-SAMA'S VICTORY,

FIRST OF ALL, WE'LL HAVE "CAPTAIN LACY RELEASE KAJI-SAMA AND YOKOI-SAMA", AND ASSURE "NO HARM WILL BE DONE TO THE 3 OF YOU"

A WAY TO NOT LOSE?

PLEASE THINK ABOUT THE RULES CAREFULLY.

WHAT IS IT? TELL ME, KAJI-KUN.

YOKOI-SAN AND I...

ARE THE PLAYERS OF THIS MATCH.

AND LACY,

AFTER ALL, ONLY OOFUNA-SAN,

CHAPTER 288
KAJI-KUN→KAJI→YOU

RIGHT NOW, ONLY THE CAPTAIN IS HERE... AND,

THE DOOR IS NOT LOCKED.

OR ACT FREELY WITHOUT BEING WATCHED, LIKE WHAT WE'RE DOING RIGHT NOW?

WERE WE ABLE TO WHISPER AT THE CORNER,

!

IMPRISONED

WANT TO ESCAPE

ARE JUST TWO HOSTAGES THAT ARE RESTRAINED ON THE BOAT BY THE PLAYER LACY.

BUT PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT,

BEFORE OOFUNA-SAN... NO, BEFORE THE REFEREE ARRIVED,

THE SITUATION IS ALMOST THE SAME AS THE TIME WHEN WE WERE CAUGHT.

IS THAT WE ARE UNDER KAKEROU'S PROTECTION SO WE WON'T BE KILLED BY THE CAPTAIN.

IN OTHER WORDS, THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE COMPARED TO THE BEGINNING,

BEFORE THE MATCH ENDS, KAKEROU WILL ENSURE OUR SAFETY...

THAT FACT,

BUT HE DIDN'T NOTICE

AND,

HE COULD HAVE IMPRISONED US IN ANOTHER ROOM UNTIL THE MATCH ENDS,

SO, THE CAPTAIN WILL PROBABLY NEGLECT US, WHOSE EXISTENCES ARE SUBTLE.

TOUCH

SPLASH

I'M HOLDING THE KEY TO THIS MATCH.

THE FACT THAT,

BEEP

MISS

TSK!

HUMPH

.....

ALRIGHT.

IT'S OOFUNA-SAMA'S TURN.

.....

ACTUALLY, I DO WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE,

BUT SINCE OOFUNA-SAN SUBSTITUTED FOR ME TO PLAY THE MATCH...

WHAT ABOUT OOFUNA!

YOU WANT TO ESCAPE FROM THIS BOAT?

KAJI-KUN,

WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, KAJI?

.....

BUT, THERE ARE TOO MANY CREW MEMBERS AT THE EXIT, SEEMS LIKE IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

IF IT'S POSSIBLE, I WANT TO LEAVE THIS BOAT FOR A MOMENT...

DON'T WORRY, THEY'RE JUST WATCHING US, THEY WILL NOT OBSTRUCT US. BE MORE CAREFUL ABOUT THE CREW

THOSE WOMEN ARE FOLLOWING US.

ALL THREE OF US WILL LOSE THE PROTECTION OF KAKEROU.

SIMPLY SPEAKING, WHEN WE LOSE THE GAME,

BUT BEFORE THAT HAPPENS,

MEANING, WE WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH CAPTAIN LACY, OOFUNA-SAMA, KAJI-SAMA AND YOKOI-SAMA AFTERWARDS.

IF CAPTAIN LACY WINS, THE BOAT IS TO "LEAVE THE PORT IMMEDIATELY".

LIKE I SAID, THE RULES.

?

WE WON'T LOSE.

IF WE CAN PREPARE SOMETHING THAT THEY THINK WE DON'T HAVE.

...IN THAT CASE...

BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO LEAVE THE BOAT...

THERE'S NO TIME.

MARCO?

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THAT MAN, KAJI!

MISS

MY GOAL IS TO FIND A WAY TO CONTACT MARCO.

IF WE BORROW A PHONE FROM OOFUNA-SAN, THE CAPTAIN WILL PROBABLY BE SUSPICIOUS OF US

I NEED A PHONE TO CALL MARCO, BUT OUR CELLPHONES WERE TAKEN BY THE CAPTAIN.

BUT WHERE SHOULD I ATTACK? THINK... FIGURE OUT THE PATTERN OF HIS SHIP PLACEMENT ...

CALM DOWN. IT'S JUST THE 2ND TURN. LACY HASN'T HIT ANYTHING EITHER.

KU...

!!

LEAVING ME ALONE, WHERE DID THEY...?

..... BY THE WAY,

HERE IT IS, A LAPTOP!

YOKOI-SAN!

IF WE CAN USE THIS COMPUTER TO CONNECT TO THE INTERNET, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTACT MARCO.

WHEN YOKOI-SAN WAS FORCED TO CALL OOFUNA-SAN,

I REMEMBER THERE WAS A LAPTOP IN THIS ROOM.

N...

NO!!

!

.....

..... ?

HUH? COME ON~

HOW ABOUT I BUY IT!?

CAN I BORROW YOUR PHONE?

NO.

WHY?

BECAUSE YOU'RE DISGUSTING.

YOU NEED AN ID AND A PASSWORD TO CONNECT TO THE INTERNET.

THIS COMPUTER ...

HOW MUCH?

ANY AMOUNT YOU WANT. JUST SAY A NUMBER.

HUH?

EXCUSE ME.

WHAT?

HEY, "YOU"!

THIS COMPUTER CAN CONNECT TO THE INTRANET OF THIS BOAT.

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? I WAS ON THAT SHOW, HAHA!

THERE WAS A SHOW CALLED "KY DECLARATION", RIGHT?

WAIT... GE- GET AWAY FROM ME!!

I CAN LOG IN WITH A CELL-PHONE!!

ACTUALLY, I HAVE 800 MILLION YEN IN MY NUMBERED ACCOUNT IN CAYMAN ISLANDS.

LOOK.

THE WAY HE CALLS ME IS GETTING.

HUH?

I FEEL THAT.

.....

!!

WHAT?
!!
YO-YOKOI-SAN, THAT IS!
.....
THERE IS ONLY THE LIVE IMAGE AND THE SOUND.
NO, THERE'S NO RECORD OF IT.
WHAT ABOUT THE VIDEO OF CAPTAIN'S SHIP PLACE-MENTS!?
IT'S THE CAMERA IN THE BRIDGE!!
IT'S A CRUISER!
A CRUISER GOT HIT!
C
C!!

OOFUNA-SAN HIT A CRUISER!!

AND OOFUNA-SAN HIT A CRUISER WITH HIS 3RD SHOT!

UP UNTIL THE 3RD ROUND, THE CAPTAIN MISSED ALL HIS SHOTS.

IT'S STILL OOFUNA-SAMA'S TURN.

ALRIGHT, KEEP GOING.

.....HUMPH.

I HIT IT AGAINST THE LEFT SIDE OF THE BOARD.

THE REMAINING 2 CELLS CAN BE...

A CRUISER OCCUPIES 3 CELLS.

I... I HIT IT...

I CAN... I CAN SINK IT...!!

CA-CALM DOWN.

FOUR POSSI-BILITIES.

AND THERE ARE...

THESE...

IT'S... AMONG THESE 3 CELLS...

3 CELLS I CAN ATTACK.

1 IN 3.

IT'S BETTER TO

BELIEVE THAT THOUGHT!

IF YOU DO THAT, WHEN YOU GET HIT, YOUR OPPONENT WILL HAVE A HIGHER CHANCE TO HIT IT.

PLACING IT VERTICALLY HERE IS NOT REASON-ABLE.

TOUCH

SPLASH

!!

HIT IT!!

IT'S CAPTAIN LACY'S TURN

ALRIGHT.

!

MISS

AAAAAA!!

BEEP

WHERE'S YOUR CUNNING FROM WHEN YOU READ EVERYTHING WITH THAT PHONE TRICK?

OR ARE YOU JUST ACTING IN ORDER TO LET MY GUARD DOWN?

YOUR HEAD IS FULL OF THEORIES, OOFUNA-KUN.

WHAT?

KUKUKU... YOU'RE SO STUBBORN...

REALLY STUBBORN.

IN THIS CASE... IF WE AMBUSH ONE OR TWO CREW MEMBERS,

MAYBE WE CAN FIND A PHONE ON THEM.....

CALM DOWN, OOFUNA-SAN.

!

I HAVE TO CON-TACT MARCO!

AH! I HAVE TO...

DON'T WORRY... I AM AHEAD RIGHT NOW.

HUMPH I'M JUST PLAYING IT REASONABLY ... LET ME CHECK THE RULES AGAIN.

THE 1 IN 2 CHANCE NEXT TIME...?

DON'T WORRY... NEXT TIME...

.....

CAN I HIT IT? I HAVE MISSED A 1 IN 3 CHANCE... CAN I HIT...

AND I WAS THINKING WHY IT WAS SO NOISY.

LOOKS LIKE WE GOT SOME RATS HERE... LET'S EAT THEM UP.

YEAH, I KNOW... I FUCKED UP... .....

OOFUNA-SAN...

AH...

"AMBUSH"

TO SURPRISE ATTACK THE ENEMY, OR TO DO SOMETHING UNEXPECTEDLY

.....

嚥喰い巻。

SPLASH

PLEASE WIN THIS MATCH.

PLEASE ...

!

ALRIGHT,

IT'S OOFUNA-SAMA'S TURN.

MISS

BOMB

HIT

HIT

BOMB

KEEP GOING,

OOFUNA-SAMA.

OOFUNA-SAMA

SANK

THE CRUISER.

THIS...
GUY...

CHAPTER 289

RESTRAINT AND ASTONISHMENT

Gallop

OOFUNA-SAN,

THE CRUISER!!

SANK...

HUH?

I'LL LEND YOU THIS MOBILE IRON STICK!

EXCUSE ME.

I'LL ALSO ...

DO YOUR BEST, OOFUNA-SAN.

CLACK

SURE, SURE.

HEHE,

MOBILE PHONE ?

I KNOW YOU WON'T BUT I'LL STILL ASK JUST IN CASE.

WELL... CAN YOU LEND ME A...

HOLD ON.

ALTHOUGH THERE'S A RULE THAT STATES

"YOU CAN DO ANYTHING" IN THIS MATCH,

SO, TO FIGHT KAKEROU OR NOT.

BUT YOUR ACTION DID NOT GO AGAINST THE RULE, "YOU CAN DO ANYTHING",

KAKEROU WON'T ALLOW YOU TO DO ANY VIOLENCE THAT WILL HARM KAJI-SAMA OR YOKOI-SAMA'S LIVES

BEFORE THE MATCH ENDS.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

!

TSK...

AH...

WAIT

IT WON'T BE A BOTHER, RIGHT ...?

JUST ONE SHOT...

IT'S OKAY, RIGHT ...?

I CAN'T RESIST IT...

OH NO...

LOVE YA.

YOU DID A GREAT JOB. KEEP IT UP

KYA QUEEN

BEEP

AL-RIGHT ...

GOT IT.

KEEP WATCHING THOSE TWO.

!!

O OKAY

H-HEY!

WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE?

WAAA! STOP! STOP!

BEEP

TSK

WE GOT IT! WE GOT IT! SO DON'T SHOOT!!

DON'T POINT IT AT SUCH A PLACE!

I KNOW.

HM.

.....SO? HAVE YOU MADE YOUR DECISION, OOFUNA-SAMA?

MISS

SPLASH

LACY HIT NOTHING.

OOFUNA SANK A CRUISER, AND IS NOW LEADING AHEAD.

OOFUNA DIDN'T MAKE CONSE-CUTIVE HITS.

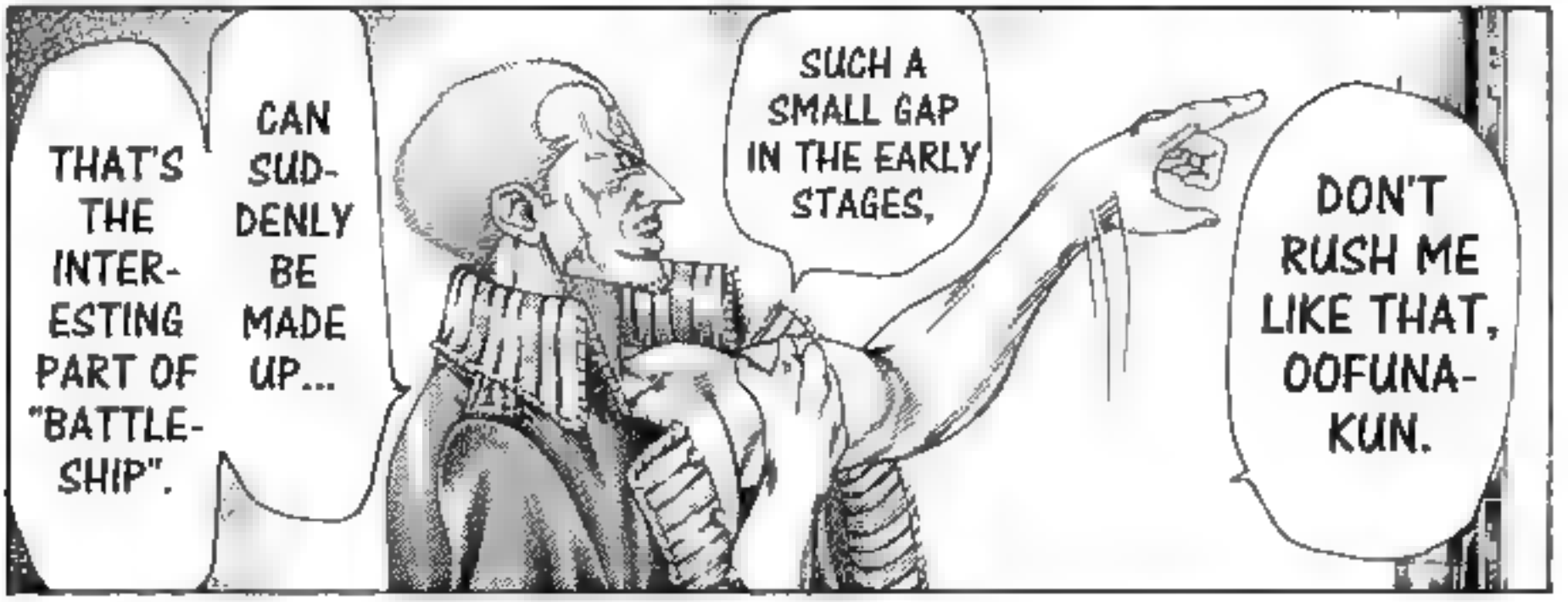
.....

IT'S BEEN 5 ROUNDS NOW.

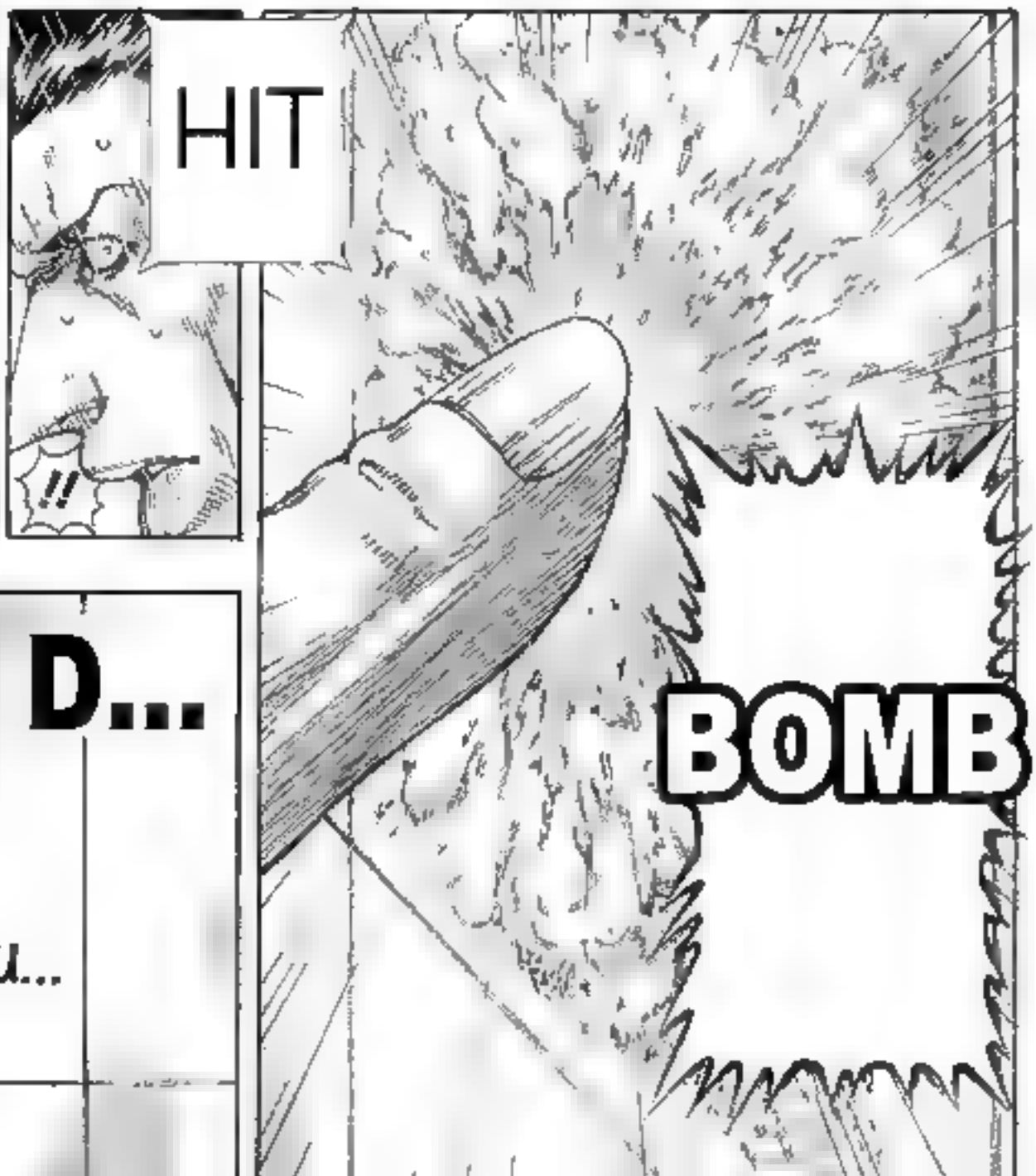
AND THEN THEY BOTH MISSED IN THE NEXT ROUND.

嘘嘘いろ。

!
ﾁﾗ
WHAT'S WRONG?
SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE NOT IN GOOD CONDITION...
THIS GAME... THE ODDS OF HITTING A SHIP IS 1 IN 5 IN THE BEGINNING.


THAT'S THE INTER-ESTING PART OF "BATTLE-SHIP".
CAN SUD-DENLY BE MADE UP...
SUCH A SMALL GAP IN THE EARLY STAGES,
DON'T RUSH ME LIKE THAT, OOFUNA-KUN.

SEE?
OH?


HIT
!!
BOMB

A DESTROYER? FINE...
D
D...
KUKU...

スゥ…

NOW, IT'S A 1-IN-4 GUESS, HUH...

WELL THEN...

BEFORE THE MATCH ENDS.

WE WON'T DO ANYTHING TO THESE TWO.

SO WE CAN'T LET THEM GO.

BUT IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME IF WE LET THEM MESS AROUND ON THE BOAT.

GO AHEAD.

.....

THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEMS IF WE IMPRISON THEM HERE... RIGHT?

WHEN THE CAPTAIN WINS,

WE WILL...

KUKU... PREPARE YOURSELF.

AND KEEP...

SHIT-TING ON YOU!

FOR-EVER!

HUMAN TOILET.

MAKE YOU INTO A...

SLICE.

DRAG OUT.

SLICE YOU.

DRAG OUT YOUR IN-SIDES.

EVERY TIME BEFORE WE LEAVE A PORT,

WE CAPTURE SOME VICTIMS, AND DO THE SAME THING TO THEM.

AND WHEN YOU'RE BROKEN,

YOU'LL END UP BECOMING FISH FEED IN THE OCEAN.

SUCH A SMALL GAP IN THE EARLY STAGES.

TOUCH

SPLASH

CAN SUD-DENLY BE MADE UP...

THAT'S THE INTER-ESTING PART OF "BATTLE-SHIP".

...
FINE.

CAPTAIN LACY

DIDN'T SINK THE DES-TROYER.

MISS

TURN ...

IT'S OOFUNA-SAMA'S...

ALRIGHT, THE 2ND PLAYER IN THE 6TH ROUND,

D

!!

BOMB

HIT

A DES-
TROYER!!

O-

OOFUNA-
SAMA!!
...HIT!!

.....!!
I SEE...

.....
A DES-
TROYER
...

THIS...
THIS
GUY...

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THIS IS STRANGE!!

HE HIT ON THE LEFT EDGE TWICE CONSECUTIVELY... IT'S INTENTIONALLY BIASED!

IN THE EARLY STAGES WHEN THERE ARE STILL LOTS OF BLANK CELLS

MORE-OVER, IT IS...

HE HIT AT SUCH A PLACE ...

O-OOFUNA-SAN!

YOU ONLY NEED TO HIT IT AGAIN TO SINK THE DESTROYER!

THIS GUY...

THE CRUISER HE JUST SANK...

2 CELLS ABOVE

THE CHANCE IS 1 IN 3.

NO,

IF IT'S JUST A COIN-CIDENCE, IT'S FINE...

IT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND THE DIAGONAL LINE HE MISSED.

BUT... THIS GUY!

BUT IT'S NOT LOGICAL FOR HIM TO ATTACK THOSE CELLS ON THE LEFT... IF IT'S NOT INTENTIONAL, ONE WILL NEVER ATTACK SUCH PLACES...

SO THE CHOICES TO HIT ARE ONLY ABOVE OR RIGHT... 1 IN 2.

NO MATTER WHAT, IT'S TOO RISKY TO ALLOCATE THE SHIPS NEXT TO EACH OTHER.

IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.

THE BLANK CELL BELOW IS RIGHT ABOVE THE SUNKEN CRUISER.

HE...

THIS... THIS GUY...

BOMB

HIT

DIDN'T EVEN HESITATE!

OOFUNA-SAMA,

THIS MAN...

ドスケベー

ド

ド

ド

KEEP GOING,

OOFUNA-SAMA.

SANK THE DES-TROYER ...

WHAT DID THIS MAN DO...? I... I WILL LOSE... THINK... THINK...!

I UNDER-ESTIMATED HIM...

WHAT ON EARTH DID HE DO?

WHO IS THIS MAN? ...WHAT IS GOING ON RIGHT NOW...?

OOFUNA GAKUHITO.

OF "BATTLE-SHIP".

THE 6TH ROUND

HAS ALREADY SUNKEN

A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, OOFUNA,

UP TILL NOW, CAPTAIN LACY HAS ONLY HIT ONCE.

CHAPTER 290

THE MAN BEHIND THE SCENES

THIS CAN HAPPEN IF YOU SHOOT RANDOMLY... BUT,

CHOOSING THE CORRECT CELL IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN STRATEGY... IT'S A GAME THAT RELIES MUCH ON LUCK.

AFTER ALL, IN THIS BATTLESHIP GAME,

IT'S NOT IMPOS-SIBLE.

.....

WITHOUT HESI-TATION...

THE OTHER WHO SHOT ON THE LEFT SIDE AND ON THE CELL WHICH IS 2 CELLS ABOVE THE CRUISER HE JUST SANK...

AND...

A MAN WHO USED THE THEORETICAL STRATEGY OF SHOOTING ALONG THE DIAGONAL LINE...

IT'S LIKE I'M FACING THE OTHER ONE AT THE SAME TIME...

IT'S LIKE THIS GUY... HAS "TWO WILLS" IN THIS MATCH.

I CAN SENSE IT...

WHEN HE HIT THE CRUISER THE FIRST TIME,

HE CHOSE TO HIT THE CELL ON THE RIGHT... AND THEN HE...

BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M CONFUSED ABOUT.

IF THIS MAN THOUGHT THAT MY SHIP PLACEMENTS ARE "AGAINST THE THEORY, AND ALL LEANING ON ONE SIDE."

.....

AND HE TOOK THIS ACTION, THEN THERE'S NO PROBLEM.

I THINK BEFORE HE SANK IT... HE ALREADY KNEW...

WHERE THE REST OF THE CELLS OF THE CRUISER WERE... AND HE ALSO KNEW THAT ON THE LEFT...

CONTINUOUSLY HIT THE REST OF THE 2 CELLS AND SANK THE CRUISER.

MISS

SPLASH

JUST RIGHT ABOVE THE CRUISER...

AGAIN, THE DIAGONAL LINE... HE RETURNED TO THE SENSIBLE STRATEGY.

BUT IN THE 4TH ROUND, THE CELL HE HIT WAS...

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO EXPLAIN IT... THIS GUY...

IT'S AN EFFICIENT WAY TO FIND THE BIG SHIPS, BUT HIS WAY OF ATTACKING IS NOT CONSISTENT AT ALL.

THAT THERE'S ANOTHER SHIP THERE.

HE PRESERVED HIS CHANCE TO HIT...

IN ORDER TO BE INCONS-PICUOUS,

THE FACT THAT "HE KNOWS WHERE THE SHIPS ARE".

AVOIDED HITTING ON THE LEFT CONTINUOUSLY... HE DIDN'T WANT ME TO GET SUSPICIOUS OF...

HIT

!!

DENLY BE MADE UP

SUCH A SMALL GAP IN THE EARLY STAGES,

BUT IN THE NEXT ROUND, AS IF GIVING HIM A COUNTER-ATTACK, I HIT A DESTROYER.

!!

BOMB

USED THE CHANCE HE PRESERVED.

JUST BECAUSE OF THAT SINGLE HIT OF MINE,

HE BECAME ANXIOUS AND RECK-LESSLY

WITH THIS MAN'S ACTIONS UP UNTIL NOW... AND IF IT IS TRUE,

THIS IS THE ANALYSIS THAT MATCHES THE MOST

BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION IS...

MEANS THAT MAYBE HE DOESN'T KNOW ALL THE POSITIONS OF MY SHIPS.

THE FACT THAT HE PRESERVED THE CHANCE TO HIT, AND WAS SWITCHING BETWEEN TWO STRATEGIES,

DUMB AND EASILY-MANIPULATED CHARACTER-ISTICS.

THERE'S ANOTHER CUNNING FACE...

HIDING BEHIND HIS

HOW DOES HE KNOW THE PLACE-MENTS OF MY SHIPS!?

WHAT DID HE DO...?

SH-SHIT...

MISS
MISS
MISS
MISS
MISS!
/ NO WAY..
NO WAY NO
WAY NO WAY
NO WAY NO
WAY NO W
...S.
IF... IF THIS KEEPS GOING AND HE REALLY HITS...
MISS
MISS MISS
MISS MISS
MISS
.....
?
MISS
IF YOU CAN GET A "VOLLEY OF FIRE" BY SINKING 2 SHIPS IN A ROW...
GO! OOFUNA-SAN!
!!
SPLASH

KNOW... I...

THE THING THAT STOPPED OOFUNA'S ATTACK...

COULDN'T SINK 2 SHIPS IN A ROW.

.....

OOFUNA-SAMA,

IT WAS THE POWER OF THE CAPTAIN HIMSELF...

NOR GOD. WAS NOT LUCK,

MISS

COULDN'T SINK 2 SHIPS IN A ROW.

OOFUNA-SAMA.

I...

I...

I... THOUGHT

KIDOU-KUN,

THAT MAN... HOW HORRIBLE ...

KILLED A MAN...

THAT GUY...

THIS SAILOR... HE... HE'S DEAD...

I THOUGHT HE JUST PASSED OUT...

YOUR LIFE.

IF YOU KEEP WANDERING AROUND ON THE BOAT, I CAN'T GUARANTEE...

YOU BETTER HIDE SOMEWHERE WITH THAT SAILOR.

EVERYONE HAS HIS LAST CHANCE.

IT'S AN E-MAIL.

THIS IS... A MESSAGE BETWEEN THE CREW MEMBERS...

PRRRR

!!

HIS CELL-PHONE!!

WHY AM I HERE...?

WHY ...

PRRR

I CAN'T MAKE IT... I KNEW I COULDN'T FROM THE BEGIN-NING...

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
?
HAS TOLD THE OTHER CREW MEMBERS
THAT I'M ON THE BOAT...?
WATCH ...AND LEAD?
"BLACK SUIT WOMEN"?
WHAT IF THIS SAILOR,
WHAT IS THIS...? NO, WAIT!
WHAT...? THIS... IS...
TOUCH
VOJA.

CAPTAIN LACY

COULDN'T SINK THE DES-TROYER.

VOJA.

M SS

SPLASH

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU...

.....

HUMPH... TALKING BIG AFTER YOU JUST MISSED.

IT'S MY TURN TO SINK HIS SHIPS.

DON'T WORRY, VOJA.

ALTHOUGH 2 SHIPS WERE SUNKEN,

KU!

MISS

SPLASH

IS NOT PERFECT.

OUR STRA-TEGY...

THIS ONE.

BUT THIS SIDE IS NOT STABLE EITHER...

NOW IT'S THE 8TH ROUND, IT'S CAPTAIN'S TURN.

AGAIN... HE USED THE THEORY...

OOFUNA-SAMA MISSED.

X

X

X

X

X

THE WIRE-LESS...?

!

P—

P—

P—

!

AND MISSING, CAPTAIN!

A CREW MEMBER IS OUT OF CONTACT

AND MISS-ING!

A CREW MEMBER IS OUT OF CONTACT.

WHAT?

CLACK CLACK

CAP-TAIN!

THERE'S ANOTHER PERSON ON BOARD... CAPTAIN. SEEMS LIKE THERE'S

NO,

THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT KIDOU!

HACHI-NA!!

HA...

!!

AND ONE SAID THAT, OTHER THAN THE MAN FROM THE MOD,

...I SEE. SO THAT'S WHAT IT IS... I SEE.

VOJA,"

.....

ANOTHER INTRUDER ON THE BOAT!

ALLY!

HE HAS ANOTHER

AND REMEMBER,

GO GET THE RAT!

THE ONE WHO'LL FINISH HIS LIFE...

IS ME!

HE STARTED TO HIT MY SHIPS.

IT WAS FROM THAT MOMENT,

LET ME CHECK THE RULES AGAIN.

HE DIDN'T WANT ME TO NOTICE THAT THERE'S AN ALLY THIS MAKES EVERYTHING EXPLAINABLE.

AND, THE REASON HE PRESERVED THE CHANCE TO HIT WAS BECAUSE

AT THAT TIME, OOFUNA WAS NOT LISTENING TO THE RULES HE RECORDED BUT THE ALLY'S INSTRUCTIONS...?

THE OTHER PERSON ON THE BOAT.

THAT'S WHY I SENSED 2 IDENTITIES INSIDE OOFUNA... THE REAL ENEMY WAS

WAS HIM...

AND THE PERSON WHO SAW THROUGH MY BOAT'S CAMOUFLAGE FROM THAT PHONE CALL,

THE PERSON WHO TOLD OOFUNA MY SHIP PLACE-MENTS,

WERE INST-RUCTED BY HIM.

ALL THE ACTIONS THAT ADVANCED ONTO ME

HE IS

INCRE-DIBLY ASTUTE.

WHO THE HELL IS HE?

.....

!

FOOLED ME WELL.

YOU

OOFUNA-KUN,

BUT HOW DOES HE... KNOW MY SHIP PLACE-MENTS...?

.....

I GUESS I SHOULD SAY THE OTHER ONE FOOLED ME WELL.

NO...

WHAT... ARE YOU DOING?

...HEY,

ゴゴゴ

YOU GUYS WERE SUSPICIOUS OF ME USING THIS HOUSEPLANT TO SEE YOUR SHIP PLACEMENTS, RIGHT?

NEVER MIND IT.

BECAUSE I LIED TO YOU TOO.

OOFUNA-KUN.

OOFUNA-KUN.

YOU WERE RIGHT.

YOUR SHIP PLACEMENT HAS ALREADY BEEN FULLY SEEN.

CHAPTER 291

EARS AS BRANCHES, EYES AS LEAVES

WH...AT...?

RIGHT

FAR FARE
N O
ENTRANCE
THE
ALL IN ONE
PLACE

OOFUNA,

IT SEEMS NOTHING WAS HIDDEN ON THIS PLANT.

I'LL KEEP CHECKING SEEMINGLY STRANGE PLACES THOUGH.

OKAY,

THANK YOU, YOKOI.

YOU WON'T SHAKE ME WITH SUCH A PETTY TRICK.

YOU LIED TO US... YOU SAID...?

HUMPH.

Y-

YOKOI-SAN...

I KNOW THERE IS

NOTHING LIKE A CAMERA HIDDEN ON THE PLANT YOU CANNOT HAVE SEEN MY SHIP PLACEMENT WITH IT

INDEED,

THERE WAS NOTHING HIDDEN ON THE PLANT.

TOUCH

YOU LACK DISCERN-MENT.

NOTHING YOU SAY?

NO-THING?

?

?

?

IT...

SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE SINCE THE MOMENT YOU ARRIVED HERE.

OOFUNA-KUN'S

SHIP PLACE-MENT.

"HE" HAS

FULLY SEEN...

SO, I'LL...

I PANICKED FOR A SECOND BUT FINALLY, MY PREPARATIONS ARE READY TOO

I ALREADY RECOGNIZED THE FACT THAT YOU SOMEHOW KNOW MY SHIP PLACEMENT.

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY...?

..... WHAT?

IS THIS MAN'S HEAD... ALRIGHT?

SHOULD I REACT TO THIS?

H-

HOW ...

ALSO HAVE THIS PLANT TELL ME THE LOCATIONS OF YOUR SHIPS.

.....

TELL... HIM...?

HAVE THE HOUSE-PLANT...

.....

HAHA..

HA...

FOR EXAMPLE,

THERE'S A PLANT CALLED THE LIMA BEAN...

CARNIVOROUS MITES, AND LET THEM PROTECT THE PLANT.

THIS IS TO ATTRACT THE TWO-SPOTTED SPIDER MITES'

NATURAL PREDATORS.

IS EATEN BY TWO-SPOTTED SPIDER MITES,

WHEN THIS PLANT

JUST AS IF IT WAS SPREADING THE INFORMATION,

AND IF IT'S WHEN THE BEANS HAVE NOT FULLY MATURED,

AND,

AN EVEN MORE UNEXPECTED EVENT OCCURS.

IT RELEASES TWO SUBSTANCES NAMED BETA-OCIMENE AND DIMETHYL NONATRIENE.

SO THE PLANTS CAN FEEL PAIN, JUST LIKE A HUMAN'S SKIN.

ALL OF THEM ARE SENSORY ORGANS... MEANING.

THEY ARE EYES, EARS, AND NOSES.

THERE'S A THEORY THAT SAYS THE FULL BODY COMPOSITION OF ALL PLANTS: LEAVES, FRUITS, AND BRANCHES.

PHEROMONES

OF DEFENSE.

THEY LIBERATE THE SAME

LIMA BEANS, WHEN BEING EATEN BY THE SPIDER MITES...

EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE NOT THE ONES BEING ACTUALLY EATEN,

ALL THE OTHER LIMA BEANS AROUND THEM,

THOSE BEANS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO INTERPRET THE PHEROMONES FROM THE ONES BEING EATEN BY MITES...

MOREOVER, THEY CAN HEAR,

AND SEE,

THE CRIES AND THE PAIN OF THE BEANS

THAT ARE BEING EATEN

.....SOME SCIENTISTS CLAIM SUCH A THEORY.

I'VE ALSO HEARD THAT

PLANTS HAVE UP TO A CERTAIN MEASURE OF

MEMORIES, AND INTELLIGENCE .....

BUT...

OOFUNA-KUN,

THAT BEHAVIOR OF YOURS SEALED OFF YOUR DESTINY FURTHER...

THE PART YOU MERCILESSLY TEARED UP...

THIS IS

.....

ALREADY SEES YOU AS A HATEFUL ENEMY...

NEEDLESS TO SAY, THIS PLANT,

INSTRUCT ME THROUGH THIS "RADAR", THE POSITIONS OF YOUR SHIPS.

AND HE WILL

ALRIGHT... IS IT HIDING...

THE LAST SHOT FOR THE DESTROYER ...

LET'S DO A WARM-UP FOR THE BEGINNING.

TELL ME, LITTLE ONE...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

RIGHT CELL...?

IN THE

WHAT HE'S TRYING TO DO IS KNOWN AS

THE BACKSTER EFFECT.

BACKSTER ...EFFECT ...?

HE SET AN ELECTRODE ON THE LEAF... AND IS MEASURING THE ELECTRIC WAVES ON IT...

THAT MAN...

YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT.

WHAT IS THIS GUY DOING!?

WHAT... IS HE DOING...?

CLEVE BACKSTER

HIS NAME IS CLEVE BACKSTER. HE THEORIZED ABOUT THE EMOTIONS OF PLANTS DURING HIS EXPERIMENTS. THIS WAS CALLED THE "BACKSTER EFFECT".

THE BACKSTER EFFECT WAS FIRST COINED IN THE 1960S BY THE MAN SAID TO BE THE PIONEER OF POLYGRAPHS. HE INSTRUCTED THE CIA ON HOW TO USE POLYGRAPHS.

AND THEN THE EXPERIMENT STARTED ESCALATING .....

AND DISCOVERED THE POLYGRAPH REACTED WELL TO THOSE STIMULATIONS...

HE PLACED MULTIPLE POLYGRAPHS ON THE PLANTS, AND GAVE THEM A VARIOUS ARRAY OF STIMULATIONS.

AND IT IS SAID

THAT THE CACTUS REALLY...

POINTED TO THE MURDERER .....

A POLYGRAPH WAS PLACED ON A CACTUS IN A ROOM WHERE A MURDER HAD HAPPENED.

AND THE CACTUS WAS MADE TO LOOK TOWARDS THE MULTIPLE SUSPECTS.

嘘嘘い為。

TO THE LEFT?

OR IS IT

D

AND WAS TREATED AS NOTHING MORE THAN A FOOLISH THEORY, AND THROWN AWAY AS A MERE STORY. IT'S A THEORY FULL OF MYSTERIES

.....

HOWEVER, THIS BACKSTER EFFECT COULD NOT BE PROVEN BY OTHER RESERCHERS.

HE'S JUST BLUFFING.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

30

HIT

BOMB

L

SO IT'S LEFT...!

SANK THE DESTROYER.

CAPITAIN LACY

ドドド

ズズ

AND HAS COMP-LETELY

IT SEEMS, THIS GUY

IS ANGRY AT YOU.

WELL, OOFUNA-KUN,

……

THAT WAS JUST A LUCKY HIT, WITH A PROBABILITY OF 1 IN 2 TO HIT.

DID YOU HIT YOUR HEAD?

ACKNOW-LEDGED YOU

AS AN ENEMY.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN THE OCCULT, DO YOU?

OF COURSE NOT.

ANYONE CAN HIT A 1 IN 2 CHANCE.

嘘吸い缶。

ONLY BELIEVING IN "THE THINGS EVERYONE BELIEVES" OR "THE COMMON SENSE IN THIS WORLD"...

I SEE.

YOU'RE ALSO THE TYPE TO NOT BELIEVE IN UFOS TOO, HUH...

THIS CAN'T BE REAL.

FROM NOW ON YOU'LL

YOU'RE EXTREMELY BIGOTED... TO A VERY UNREALISTIC LEVEL... YOU... DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT REALITY...

LEARN BY YOURSELF.

ALRIGHT... TELL ME,

HERE? HOW IS IT?

OR AROUND HERE?

HM?

ARE THAT GUY'S SHIPS AROUND HERE?

NO SHIPS HERE?

HOW ABOUT HERE?

HERE?

.....

IS IT HERE? OR IS IT...

.....

AM I CLOSING IN?

BOMB

wwwww

AH...

!!

.....

A "B"...
IT MEANS...

HIT

B

!!

I FOUND A BIG ONE!

IT'S A BATTLE-SHIP!

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?

IT WAS 18 OUT OF 91, MEANING, AROUND 20%, A 1 IN 5 CHANCE.

YOU TOLD ME BEFORE THAT IT WAS A 1 IN 2 CHANCE.

CA- CALM DOWN...

IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN... A FLUKE.

ARE THEY VERTICAL?

OF THE BATTLE-SHIP.

TELL ME THE LOCATIONS OF THE 3 LAST CELLS

MOVING ON.

WHAT~?

BOMB

BOMB

BOMB

IS IT HERE?

A 4 HIT CONTINUOUS STRIKE!

B B B

スナイ

THE BATTLE-SHIP

HAS SUNK.

HAHA!

CONSE-
CUTIVE
SINKING!

WITH THIS, I GOT THE RIGHT TO USE A VOLLEY OF FIRE, OOFUNA-KUN~~~~

THIS... THIS MATCH IS..!

INTER-
ESTING!

CHAPTER 292

VOLLEY AGAIN

DEFINITELY...

I WON'T BELIEVE IT.

NO WAY...

MY PLACEMENT HAVE BEEN SEEN?

BY A FUCKING PLANT!?

CAN'T HAPPEN!

SUCH A THING

CAPTAIN LACY, AS YOU JUST SANK 2 SHIPS IN A ROW,

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO FIRE 5 SHOTS IN A ROW, A VOLLEY OF FIRE.

A DES-TROYER,

FOLLOWED BY A BATTLESHIP.

BY PASSING ON GETTING A VOLLEY OF FIRE.

AFRAID OF APPEARING SUSPICIOUS TO ME, YOU LET GO OF YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO WIN,

!!

...YOU MADE A MISTAKE.

BEFORE I GOT THIS RADAR.

WAS TO END THIS GAME

YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO WIN

嘘嘘い奴。

KU...

IT'S NOT LIKE... I BELIEVE IT... BUT,

THIS...

WAY OF PLAYING IS AUTHO-RIZED?

THERE IS NO ISSUE WITH IT.

THERE ARE NO RULES IN THIS GAME

APART FROM UTILIZING THE SYSTEM TO PLAY IT.

I TOLD YOU ANYTHING CAN BE USED.

THERE IS SOMETHING ONLY I, THE REFEREE, CAN SEE BY KNOWING BOTH SIDES' SHIP PLACEMENT.

THE THING YOU'RE DOING WOULD BE OUT TOO.

OTHER-WISE,

IN ORDER TO CREATE A CARD THAT CAN REVERSE THE FLOW OF THE GAME,

BOTH SIDES HAD ALREADY PLANTED THE SEED

BEFORE THE MATCH STARTED.

SO~

AND TRY TO LOOK AT YOUR OWN DEATH APPROACHING

KU...

YOU TWO,

KEEP LOOKING AT THE MONITOR,

LET'S MOVE.

HEY, THEY SAID THERE'S AN INTRUDER.

WHAT?

CALM DOWN, THAT IS NOTHING MORE THAN A TRICK!

OOFUNA-SAN,

WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THAT PLANT!?

WHERE ARE THE REST OF THE SHIPS~?

MAYBE

THE REACTION IS A BIT WEAK...

.....

HOW ABOUT HERE...?

I TOOK TOO MUCH ENERGY FROM YOU ALREADY?

WHAT'S WRONG?

HM...

THAT IS

THE LOCATION OF THE CRUISER...

!!

YES.

REFEREE, PLEASE KINDLY MAKE PREPAR-ATIONS.

AHH, IT'S OKAY, I'LL LET YOU HAVE A BREAK. I HAVE MORE OR LESS GRASPED THE REMAINING SHIPS' LOCATIONS TOO ANYWAY.

.....

FOR THE VOLLEY OF FIRE.

I'LL FIRE IT ALL AT ONCE.

IT'S INDEED A FACT THAT HE COULD SINK THE BATTLESHIP WITHOUT MISSING.

I DON'T BELIEVE... THAT THE PLANT IS ABLE TO DO ALL THAT, BUT...

THE VOLLEY OF FIRE... THIS IS BAD...

HE'S GONNA USE

SHIT... MISS IT!!

MISS IT!!

AND THEN, HE USES THAT PLANT TO FIND OUT..... I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

ALTHOUGH YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KNOW WHICH SHOT AMONG THE 5 SHOTS HIT A SHIP...

IF IT REALLY DOES HIT,

THE VOLLEY OF FIRE,

!

!!

THESE!

THE FIVE PLACES ARE

D D

B B B B

LAUNCH THE VOLLEY OF FIRE!!

SHOT

HIT

IT WAS NOT AS BAD AS I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE.

JUST ONE HIT ON A DESTROYER.

!

ONE

YOKOI... SA...

ONE SHOT HIT A

DES-TROYER.

HIT AND SANK

A SUB-MARINE

GA HA HA HA!!

MORE ONE

DUE TO SINKING SHIPS IN A ROW, CAPTAIN LACY GAINED ANOTHER VOLLEY OF FIRE!!

KU KU.

KU...

A SUB-MARINE!!

I SANK

AND! AND!

VOLLEY OF FIRE!!

OOFUNA-KUN,

YOUR "NOT A BIG GAP"

ENDED JUST NOW.

WHY DO YOU SEEM SO HAPPY...? LOOK CLOSER.

IT'S NOT THAT MUCH OF A GAP YET... STOP FUSSING...

WHA...

HUMPH

IT'S... QUITE DIFFERENT NOW.

THE BIGGER SHIPS WHICH ARE EASIER TO HIT ARE NOT THAT IMPORTANT.

THE THING IS, FOR THIS GAME,

THE MOST IMPORTANT SHIPS ARE...

JUST HOW CRUCIAL THE SUBMARINES ARE

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND

AT DETER-MINING THE OUTCOME OF THIS GAME.

S

THE SUB-MARINES.

スコール

THE SMALL ONES THAT YOU CAN SINK WITH ONE SHOT,

SUBMARINES ARE DREADFULLY DIFFICULT TO FIND... IT'S LIKE THIS GAME COULD BE SUMMARIZED AS,

HE REPEATEDLY MISSES WITHOUT HITTING THEM... AND THEN THE GAME GETS TURNED AROUND IN THE END.

I'VE SEEN THAT HAPPEN SO MUCH THAT I COULD PUKE.

NO MATTER HOW MANY BIG SHIPS A PLAYER SINKS,

ONLY THE TWO SUBMARINES.

A BIG~

GAP~

YOU ARE NOW QUITE LACKING BEHIND

VOLLEY OF FIRE.

AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD TO DO THAT IS THE

SINKING THE SUB-MARINES.

ONE OF THEM MUST HAVE HIT A DESTROYER.

ALRIGHT, THE LAST 4 REMAINING SHOTS.

WILL HE REALLY BE ABLE TO FIGURE IT OUT...? NO, THAT CAN'T...

AND WHERE ARE THE REMAINING CELLS OF THE DESTROYER HIDDEN?

WHICH ONE WAS A HIT?

!!

WE...

OR IS IT... HERE?

HE SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HIT IT.

THE SHOT ON THE BOTTOM LEFT...

THE DESTROYER WAS HIT BY

WE STILL HAVE A SUBMARINE LEFT... IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO GIVE UP...

AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT, THERE ARE TOO MANY POSSIBILITIES FOR THE PLACES THE REST OF THE CELLS CAN BE...

!

SPLASH

!!

MISS

.....

OOFUNA HAS ONE MORE SUBMARINE, IT WOULD BE BETTER TO STOCK UP THE VOLLEY OF FIRE FOR LATER.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT THIS RADAR... IS NOT VERY ACCURATE RIGHT NOW...

OOFUNA-SAN!!

WATCHING IT AND THEN SHOWING IT ON THE RADAR.

SOON... IT WILL ALL BECOME CLEAR.

NOW, THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR... ANYMORE.

HIT

BOMB

BOMB

OOFUNA IS ABLE TO FIND THE SHIP THANKS TO HIS FRIEND'S SUPPORT.

OOFUNA-SAMA HAS SUCCESS-FULLY HIT THE CRUISER WITH TWO HITS IN A ROW!!

BOTH OF THEM ARE NOT PLAYING THE GAME LEGITIMATELY.

SPLENDID... I LOVE IT, IT'S THE GAME ONLY A "NO RULE GAME" CAN OFFER.

THEY ARE BOTH HITTING THE SHIPS SUCCESS-FULLY WITH THEIR OWN, UNIQUE METHOD.

VERY WELL... LET'S DUEL!

.....

TSK... HITTING THE SHIP AGAIN...

AND, CAPTAIN LACY IS ABLE TO FIND THE SHIPS THROUGH THE PLANT.

嘘吸いゐ。

OOFUNA STILL HAS **6 SHIPS LEFT.**

AND FROM NOW ON, OOFUNA'S SHIPS WILL...

CAPTAIN LACY HAS **7 SHIPS LEFT.**

HE'LL LOSE...

MUCH FASTER THAN BEFORE...

START TO BE SUNK

FAST ENOUGH...

IF HE CAN'T CHECK THE ANSWER

CHAPTER 293

THE TRUTH OF THE PARASITISM

WAIT, MOGAMI.

WHAT?

!?

IS IT REALLY ALRIGHT?

FOR YOU TO PLAY AROUND WITH YOUR EXCLUSIVE MEMBER?

IT'S NOT LIKE... I'M NOT INTERESTED IN... BUT...

I DON'T CARE WHETHER YOU MEAN TO OR NOT!!

IT'S YOUR MIS-UNDER STAND ING.

AT THIS TIMING, REALLY?

YOU WERE THE ONE INVITING ME WITH SUCH EYES.

SHUT UP.

I AM THE TYPE TO HAVE NO LIMITS.

I CAN GO WITH IT.

WHETHER YOU LIKE IT, OR NOT,

I WANT TO TASTE EVERYTHING, THE COMPLEXITY OF HUMANS TOO...

MORE, AND MORE,

I HATE NARROW MINDED-NESS.

WANT TO HAVE ME, IN YOUR COLLECTION?

DO YOU

AH...

HA...

OH MY,

HAVE BEEN PLAYING WITH ALL TYPES OF WOMEN.

I HEARD THAT YOU

"TASTE AND USE YOU."

NOW, I'LL...

..IS THAT WHAT YOU WERE PLANNING TO SAY, KURAMA RANKO?

!!

BUT,

YOU MADE A MISTAKE IN CHOOSING ME TO PLAY AROUND WITH.

YOU SEEM TO REALLY LIKE BOTH, DON'T YOU?

I WILL NOT BE MANIPU-LATED BY ANYONE.

SORRY BUT NO, THAT WILL NOT HAPPEN.

I HATE BEING USED YOU SEE.

THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON IN THIS WORLD WHO CAN DO WHAT HE WANTS TO REFEREE MOGAMI.

EVERY-THING IN THIS WORLD EXISTS FOR ME TO USE.

WOMEN.

MEN,

KAKEROU MEMBERS,

CHAPTER 293

THE TRUTH OF THE PARASITISM

ALL THE THOUGHTS INSIDE HER HAVE FINALLY

RIGHT NOW, MOGAMI'S EX-PRESSION WAS CLEAR.

ONLY HER, THE REFEREE, WAS ABLE TO FULLY TASTE THE SECRET OF THIS MATCH.

AND IT HAPPENED WHEN

CONNECTED TOGETHER.

WAS ABLE TO FIND THE CAPITAIN'S SHIPS?

HOW COME THAT OOFUNA GAKUHITO ....

THE MOMENT SHE UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WAS

SOMEONE ELSE HIDDEN ON THE BOAT, SECRETLY HELPING OOFUNA...

C

WE NEED TO FOCUS THO-ROUGHLY AGAIN ON WHAT HAPPENED AT THAT MOMENT.

RE-WINDING THIS GAME, THE FIRST HIT,

O(SAN HIT A CRUISER!!

FIRST, LET'S DIVIDE THE 10X10 CELLS OF THE GAME BOARD WITH ALPHABET LETTERS AND NUMBERS.

I READ YOUR E-MAIL.

GAKUTO,

OOFUNA GAKUHITO, WHO SAID HE WAS REVIEWING THE RECORDED RULES AT THAT TIME.

THEN WITH A5, 1 CELL ABOVE AGAIN.

IN OTHER WORDS, 1 CELL ABOVE. IF THIS IS ALSO A HIT,

YOU WILL SINK THE CRUISER.

NEXT, HIT A6.

RIGHT NOW, THE ONE YOU JUST HIT WAS A7... ALRIGHT?

AFTER HE SANK THE DESTROYER ON THE SAME LEFT SIDE, 2 CELLS ABOVE THE CRUISER HE JUST SANK.

AND AT THE NEXT TURN,

OOFUNA OBEYED THAT ADVICE WITHOUT PROOF,

AND SANK THE CRUISER.

AND,

THE ADVICE BECAME SOLID.

HAD FULLY GROWN INTO THE BUD AS PER HIS EXPECT-ATIONS..

THAT THE SEED HE PLANTED

FROM THAT RESULT, "HE" ALSO CONFIRMED..

HE WAS SIMPLY

THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE.

CHECKING THEM ONE BY ONE.

AND WHAT DID HE DO?

WHAT IS THE EXPECTED BUD?

WERE THE LEAKED-OUT WEAPONS OR NOT."

"CHECKING WHETHER THE CONTENTS OF THE CONTAINERS

THE ONE WHO LOADED ALL THE CONTAINERS BEFORE THE MATCH.

MOGAMI TAEKO.

THE ONLY ONE TO KNOW THAT ANSWER WAS

WHY

WAS HE ABLE TO FIND OUT THE CAPTAIN'S SHIP PLACEMENT BY CHECKING THE CONTAINERS..?

20.

WOULD EQUAL THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTAINERS,

20

SHE MADE IT SO THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CELLS OCCUPIED BY SHIPS,

SO THAT THE POSITIONS OF THE 20 CONTAINERS WITH WEAPONS

AND LOADED THE WEAPONS CONTAINERS

AMONG ALL THE OTHER ONES ON THE BOAT.

AND THE POSITIONS OF THE CAPTAIN'S SHIPS,

WOULD
MATCH
PERFECTLY.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

OF COURSE, WE WILL BE THE GUARANTORS OF THIS, AND WILL RECORD THE POSITION OF EVERYONE'S SHIPS.

I DON'T EVEN TRUST YOU AT ALL TO BEGIN WITH

I WON'T NEED TO WORRY THAT HE'LL "CHANGE THE POSITION OF HIS SHIPS".

I NEED A "100% GUARANTEE" THAT,

WE'RE GOING TO USE HIS SYSTEM, SO I'M NOT GONNA BACK DOWN ON THAT

GETS EATEN BY PREDATORS.

SO THAT THE HOST

IN ORDER FOR THE PARASITE TO INFEST THE MAIN HOST.

THEY MAKE THEIR HOST OPEN UP OVER A CHOPPING PLANK.

INVADE THEIR HOST AND

THERE'S A KIND OF PARASITE THAT

MAKE IT MOVE CONSPICUOUSLY IN ORDER TO ATTRACT ITS PREDATORS' ATTENTION EASILY

I AM A POWERLESS EXISTENCE HERE, SO AT LEAST,

THIS IS THE ENEMY'S BOAT, HIS TERRITORY.

LOOK OUTSIDE THE BRIDGE.

OOFUNA-SAMA,

I WANT "IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE" OF IT.

HE INFESTED OOFUNA AND USED HIM TO

AT THAT TIME,

WHEN THE MATCH ENDS.

THERE IS NO NEED FOR US TO HAVE YOUR TRUST... YOU WILL HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO TRUST US...

THE SEED PLANTED BY THAT MAN ITS COLOR, ITS FORM, EVERY THING...

SHE CREATED THE IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE.

JUST LIKE A BIRD WHO FOLLOWS ITS INSTINCT AND GETS INFESTED BY THE PARASITES.

AS PER HIS OWN WILL.

MAKE MOGAMI TAEKO MOVE...

WHILE KNOWING NOTHING.

FULLY BLOOMED INTO A FLOWER OF HIS OWN WILL.

EVEN THOUGH THE MAN, WHO'S NOW MOVING AROUND THE CONTAINERS AND CHECKING THEIR CONTENTS,

HAD BEEN HIDING SOMEWHERE, MANIPULATING AND UTILIZING MOGAMI

WITHOUT HER AWARENESS,

MOGAMI'S EXPRESSION WAS CLEAR.

IS IT BECAUSE
SHE MADE THE RULE,
"ANYTHING IS ALLOWED",
TO ENSURE
THE FAIRNESS OF
THE FIGHT,

SO EVEN THOUGH
SHE WAS
MANIPULATED
BY THE MAN,
THE ACTION HE DID
DIDN'T GO AGAINST
THE RULE?

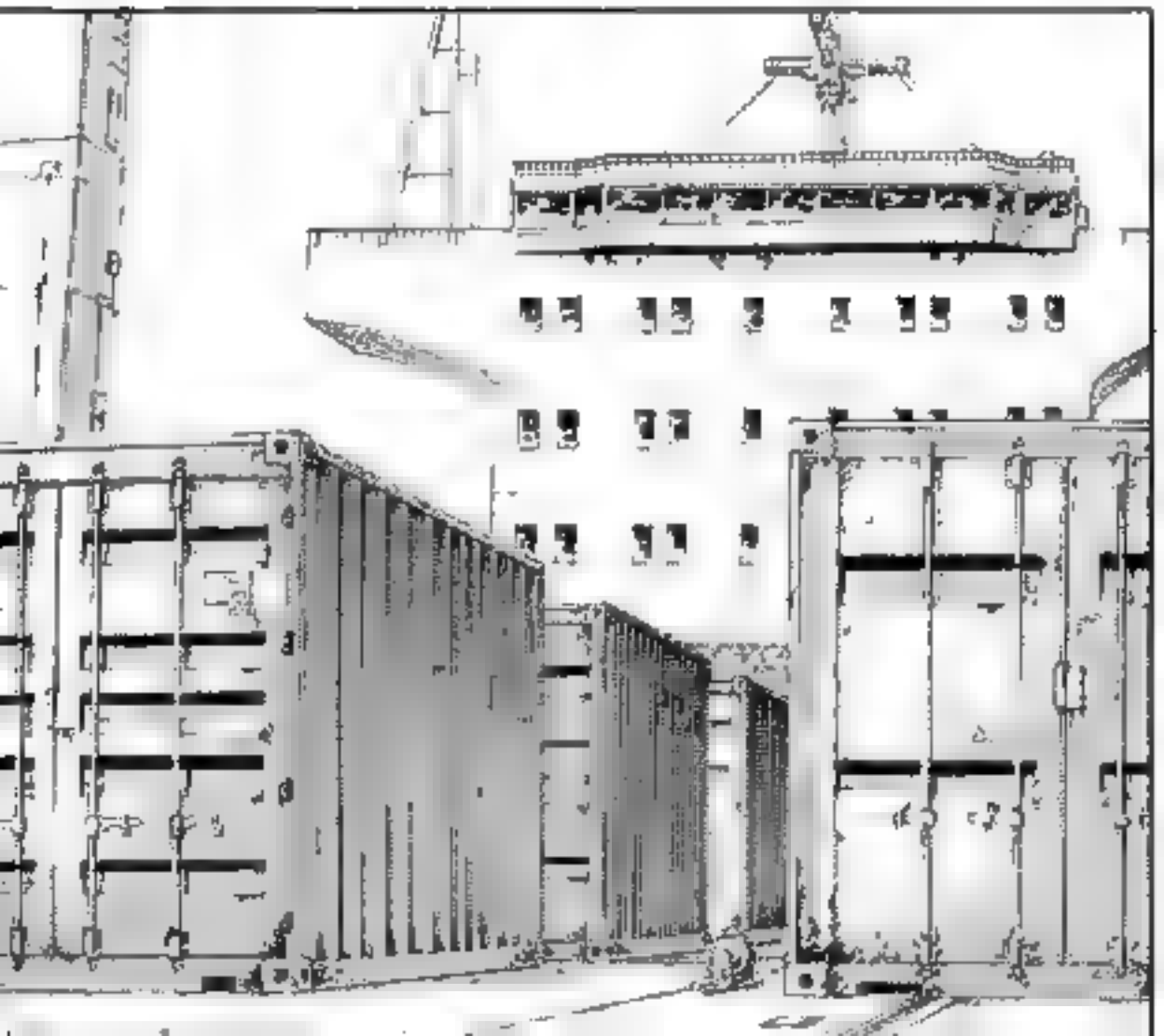
I
WONDER
...

WHAT
THIS
FEELING
IS...

WHO
IS
HE...?

THE THING THAT
MANIPULATED HER
WAS
"INEVITABILITY"
.....?

OR IS IT
BECAUSE



BUT FROM WHERE HE IS, THERE ARE THINGS THAT CAN BE SEEN AND SOME THAT CANNOT.

I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS,

THINGS THAT HE CAN GRASP AND SOME THAT HE CANNOT.

MOGAMI IS NOW FULLY HIT BY HER CURIOSITY TOWARDS HIS REAL IDENTITY.

THAT MYSTE-RIOUS MAN...

I WONDER IF HE CAN RESOLVE... THE CAPTAIN'S KEY...

.....

嫌味ったらしい奴。

WHAT'S WRONG, OOFUNA-KUN?

THE POSITION OF THIS CRUISER...

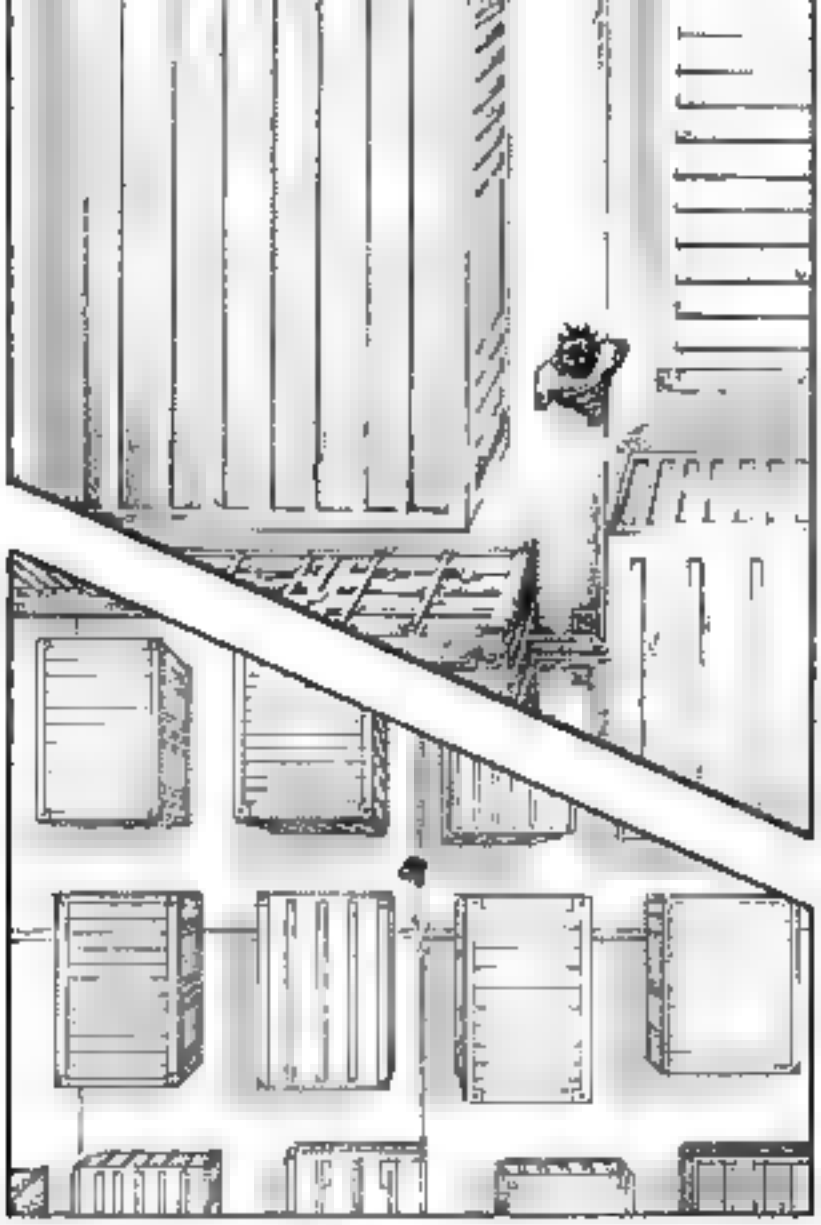
IS THE LAST INFO FROM HACHINA... AFTER I SINK IT,

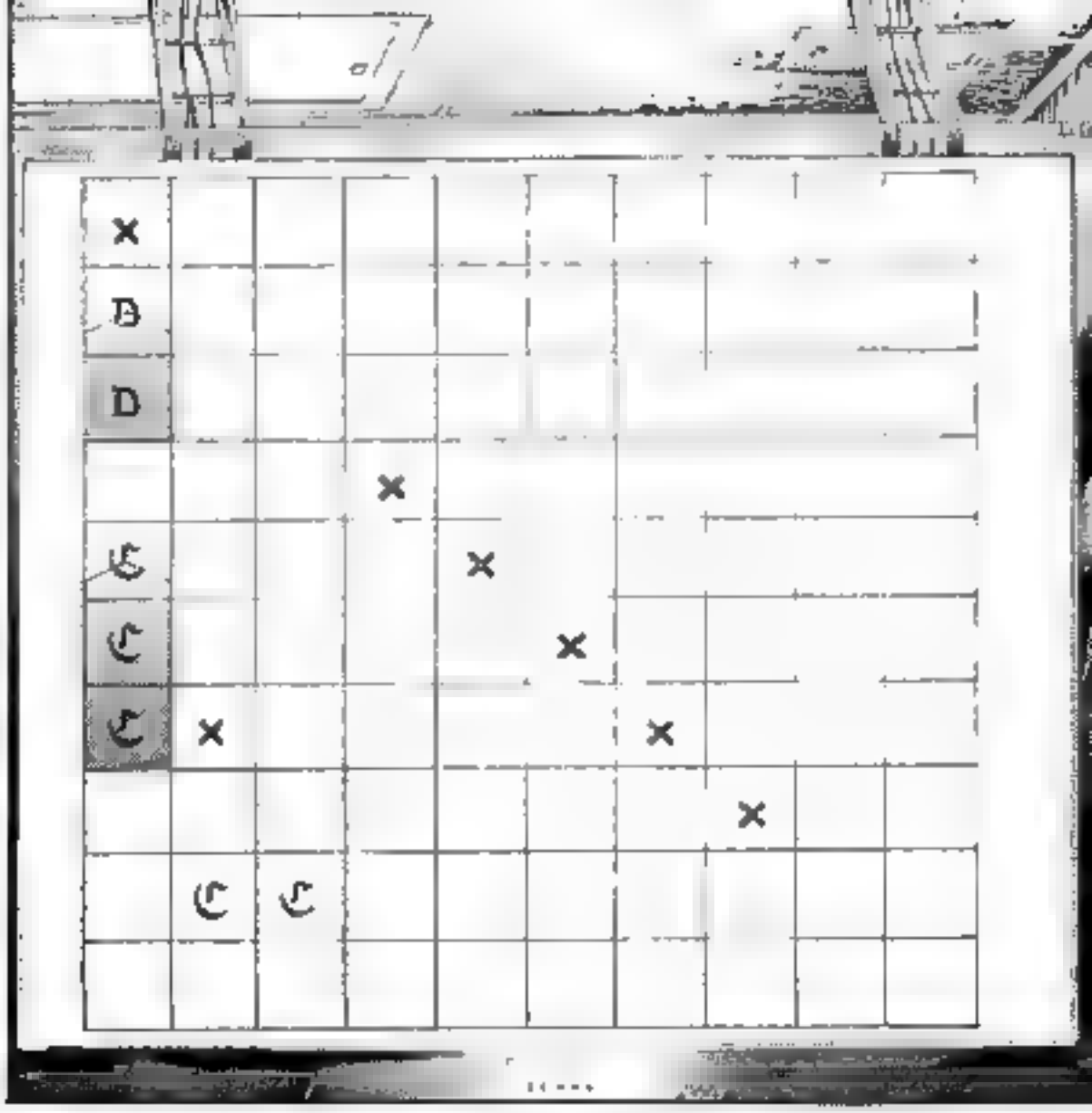
SHUT UP.

AIN'T YOU GOING TO SINK MY CRUISER?

AREN'T YOU GOING TO SHOOT?

I HAVE TO GO ON WITH MY OWN STRENGTH...

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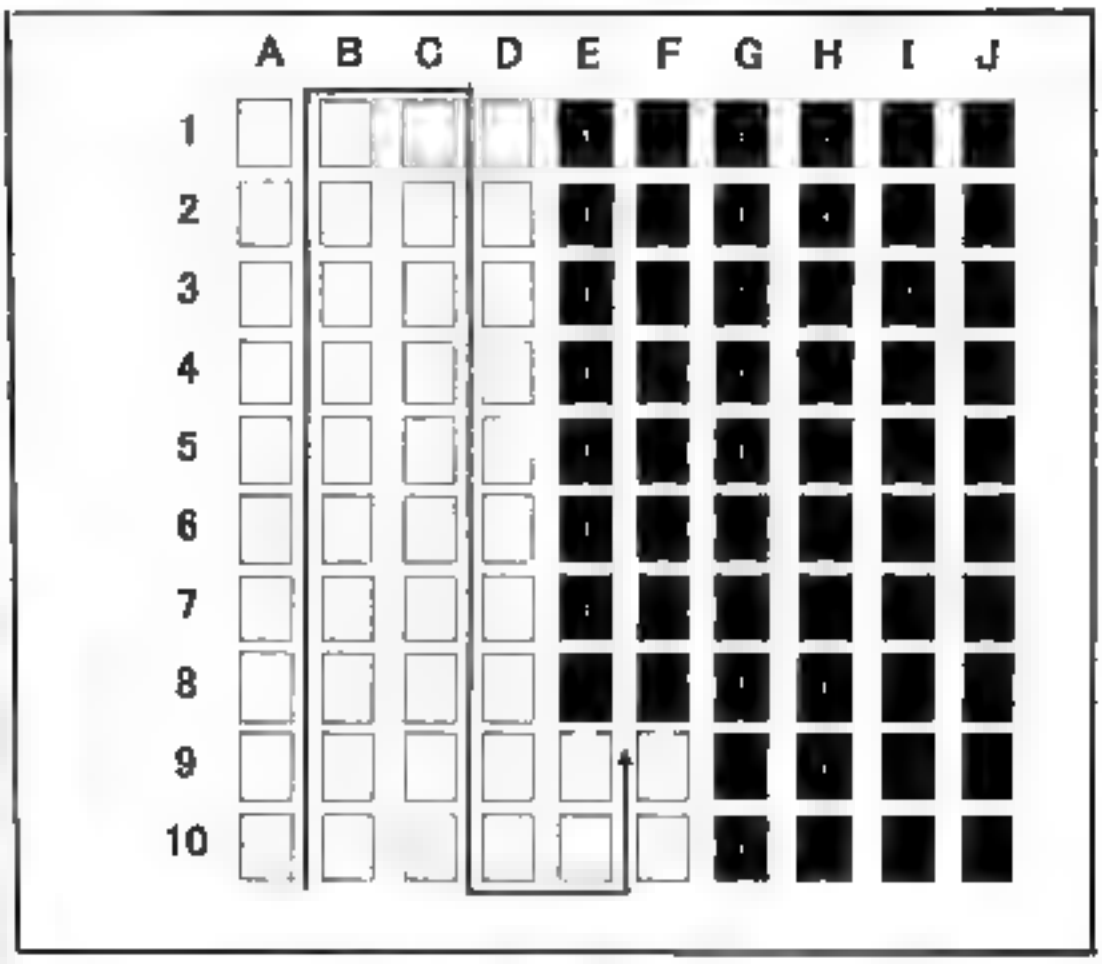
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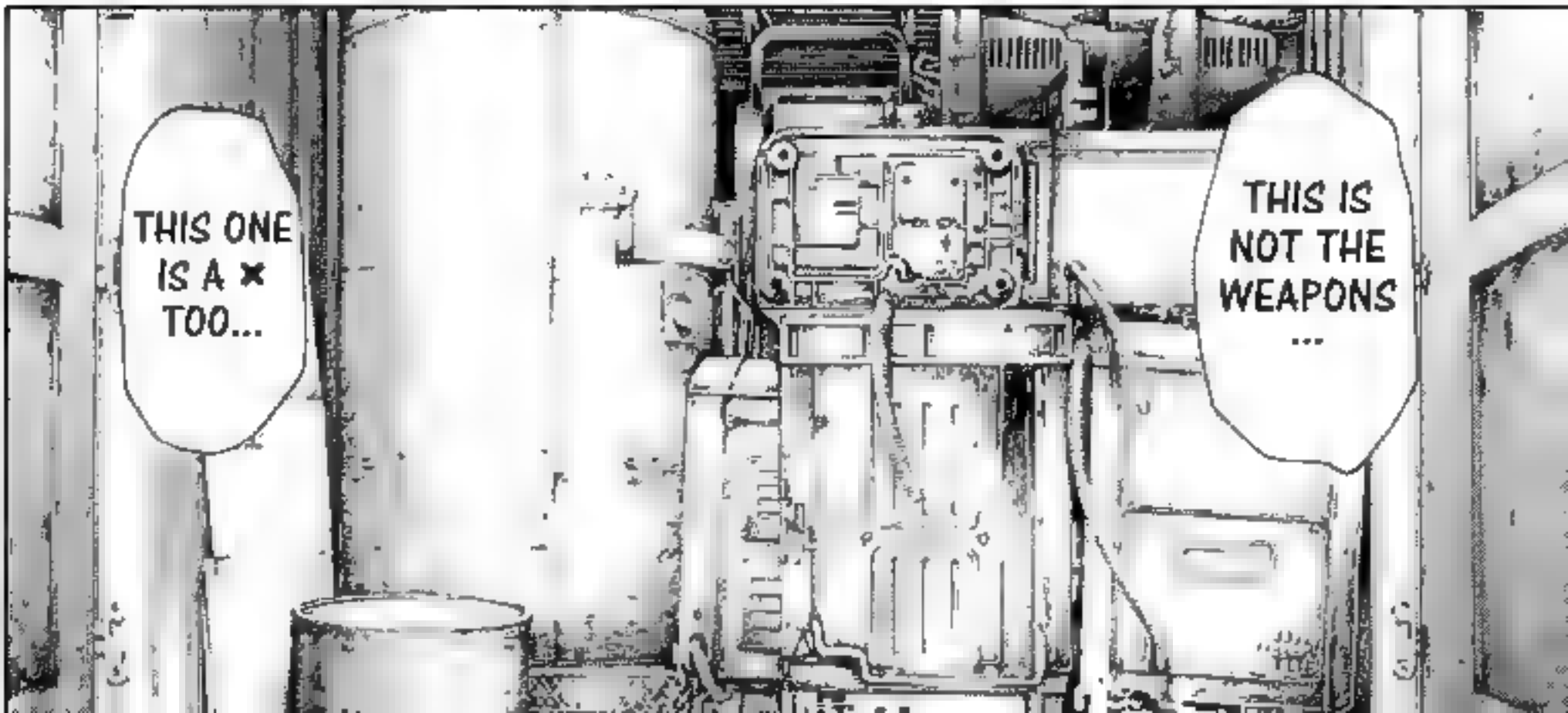

THIS ONE IS A ✖ TOO...
THIS IS NOT THE WEAPONS ...

THESE CONTAINERS HAVE BEEN ON THIS BOAT FROM THE START. IT SEEMS THEY HAVE BEEN SHIPPING WEAPONS AROUND THE WORLD...

THESE ARE... STOLEN GOODS...? FOR ILLEGAL RESELLING?

Captain's Cabin

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK

CLACK

!!

GULP...

バ
バ
バ

LIKE A WHITE... MEMBRANE...

LIKE A MEMBRANE.

CAN YOU UNDER-STAND...

HUUU
HUUUU
HUUUU
HUUUU
HUUUU

CAN SOMEONE LIKE YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS!?

CHAPTER 294

ANOTHER DEPARTURE

THE ROOMS!

SEARCH THE ROOMS IN PRIORITY!

SEPA-RATE IN TEAMS AND SEARCH FOR HIM!

WE GOT INFO THAT THE INTRUDER IS HIDING INSIDE THE BOAT!

Captain's Cabin

GO NOW!

I LEAVE THE DECK TO YOU!

?

WHAT IF THIS SAILOR HAS TOLD THE OTHER CREW MEMBERS

THAT I'M ON THE BOAT...?

"THEY ARE HIDDEN IN HIS CABIN'S LOCKER."

"AND THEIR QUALITY IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD."

"THE DIA-MONDS."

"THE CAPTAIN IS COLLECT-ING THEM IN THE PORTS HE HAS BEEN VISITING."

"AS I THOUGHT, IT IS THE SAME THIS TIME TOO."

THIS IS!

WANT TO STEAL THE CAPTAIN'S DIAMONDS ...

THE-THESE GUYS...

"I'VE ALSO PREPARED THE KEY TO THE LOCKER. NOW, THE ISSUE IS WITH THE PASSWORD. LET'S GO ONE BY ONE."

"IT WILL BE UNCOVERED SOON."

"THAT'S GREAT NEWS."

"I'VE GOT A DUPLICATE KEY TO THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN... THE LOCKER IS ALL THAT'S LEFT."

"TODAY, WE FINALLY MANAGED TO UNCOVER WHAT TYPE OF LOCKER IT IS."

AWE...

AWE-SOME...

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

I... I CANT EVEN IMAGINE IT...

HOW MUCH ARE THESE WORTH...?

HOW ...

THE 100 MILLION YEN I LOST IS NOTHING MORE THAN A FART...

THE 100 MILLION YOU SAID!?

THE ONLY THING I CAN TELL IS THAT COMPARED TO THESE DIAMONDS,

KIDOU, KEEP FOLLOWING THOSE GUYS AND REPORT EVERYTHING TO ME.

UNDERSTOOD. WE SHOULD SETTLE THIS IMMEDIATELY

WHAT... WHAT ABOUT THE MONEY?

IF I DON'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE 100 MILLION, IT WILL BE PRETTY BAD.

LISTEN.

SETTLE ONE THING AT A TIME.

YES.

I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW THEY DID IT, BUT THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE THAT GOT THE INFO ABOUT THE BOAT.

MORE IMPOR TANTLY IS WHAT YOU SAID TRUE, KIDOU?

COINCI DENTALLY..? AREN'T YOU HIDING SOMETHING?

COINCI-DENTALLY.. I'M FOLLOWING THEM RIGHT NOW AS THEY'RE HEADING TO THE PORT.

HEHEHE.. WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR DETAILS NOW...

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN ANY OTHER REPORT THAN THAT ONE.

THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU SHOULD DO YOURSELF.

THINK ABOUT THE MONEY ONLY AFTER YOU GIVE ME THAT REPORT.

"THE BOAT LEAVES SAFELY AND THOSE TWO GUYS HAVE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF."

HOWEVER, MY LIFE AT THAT TIME WAS QUITE COMFORTABLE THOUGH.

FROM THE START, MY LIFE STARTED FALLING DOWN SINCE THE TIME I DIRTIED MY HANDS WITH A COORDINATOR OF A DIRTY TRADE, AT THE INSTIGATION OF THE SECTION CHIEF OF THE MOD. WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW SINCE IT HAPPENED SO LONG AGO.

TSK, THIS IS THE LAST TIME I TAKE SUCH A DIFFICULT JOB.

I HAVE NOTHING OF THE SORT!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "EVERYONE HAS HIS LAST CHANCE"? HUMPH!

OI, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE I HAVE.

AND IT ENDS NOW.

I CAN REMAKE A FANTASTIC LIFE WITH THESE DIAMONDS!

THESE DIAMONDS ...

THAT MAN MUST BE A BIG SHOT.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE'S TRYING TO DO, BUT,

NOW I HAVE TO ESCAPE FROM THIS BOAT NO MATTER WHAT.

IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE,

DO NOT INTERFERE

THERE IS SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO BY THE CONTAINERS OUTSIDE.

BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THE DIAMONDS..? I CAN'T LEAVE THEM UNPROTECTED

I DON'T WANT TO LOOK SUSPICIOUS IF I GET CAUGHT. SHOULD I GO BACK AND GET MY SUIT BACK...?

MY OUTFIT IS DANGEROUS TOO.

BUT, HOW SHOULD I LEAVE..? EVEN IF I AM NOT AN ENEMY, THESE GUYS ARE NOT AWARE OF THIS FACT.

.....

JUST LIKE THE MAIL INFO SAID, THE INTRUDER SHOULD BE ON THE BOAT.

WE CAN'T FIND ANYONE AFTER ALL.

LET'S GO.

I HAVEN'T GIVEN GAKUTO NEW INFO FOR A WHILE... I HAVE TO CHECK THE CONTAINER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ..

I HAVE TO HURRY...

!

OI!

GLACK

FULLY INSPECT ALL CREW MEMBERS TOO!

GOT IT?

IVAN'S DEAD BODY WAS FOUND IN THE TOILET!

TAKE CARE, THE INTRUDER IS WEARING OUR CREW'S CLOTHES!

CLOSE

WE CAN'T FIND HIM LIKE THAT!!

SEARCH MORE INSTEAD OF COM-PLAINING!

NO.

FOUND HIM?

GO!

SEARCH THE CON TAINERS TOO!

THERE ARE TOO MANY CON TAINERS.

CHAN~ JYA LALALA LAN~

CHAN~ JYA LALALA LALA LAN~

着信中

'2745'

応答

WAIT A SECOND ...

W-

I DON'T THINK IT'LL WORK, BUT I'LL TRY...

I...

着信中

IS IT A PHONE RINGING?

I HEARD SOME-THING...

!

IT CAME FROM

IT'S NOT FULLY CLOSED... HE'S INSIDE...

IT'S A TYPE THAT CANNOT BE OPENED FROM INSIDE.

THIS CON-TAINER.

HEHE

THAT SOUND WAS

COMING FROM MY PHONE.

HUMPH WE SHOULD ALL GO IN.... DON'T DROP YOUR GUARD... HE'S SOMEONE THAT CAN KILL WITHOUT BLINKING AN EYE.

HE'S THE REAL ENEMY, THREATENING THE DEPARTURE OF THE BOAT.

THE PHONE HE STOLE FROM ME.... I SAID I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY, SEE?

WHO KILLED THE CREW MEMBER IN THE TOILET.

HE'S ALSO THE ONE

KEKE...

HE...

CAN YOU HEAR ME!?

HEY HEY!

HEHE HE!

YOU AND THE OTHER GUY WILL DIE FOR ME...

HE... HEHE... CAN YOU UNDER-STAND...

HE...

HEHE ...

YOU WILL END THIS GUY'S LIFE, RIGHT?

OTHERWISE, IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME FOR ME... BECAUSE I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET MY REWARD...

AND I WILL LOSE THIS NICELY PAYING JOB~

JUST LIKE A GIRL WHO CONTINUES TO DATE A SHITTY BOYFRIEND, AND CAN ONLY LOVE SUCH A PIECE OF SHIT! CAN YOU UNDERSTAND SUCH FEELINGS!?

EVEN IF I KNOW I'LL NEVER GET A HAPPY LIFE IF IT KEEPS GOING, I STILL REPEATEDLY DO THE SAME THING AGAIN AND AGAIN.

CAN SOMEONE LIKE YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND THOSE FEELINGS!?

CAN SOMEONE LIKE YOU...

UNDER-STAND MY FEELINGS!?

EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE CHANCES LIKE THAT RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME SOMETIMES,

BUT,

AND I'VE BEEN BELIEVING THAT "SOMEDAY I'LL LIVE LIKE A NORMAL PERSON",

I CAN DISTINGUISH THEM JUST LIKE A NORMAL PERSON... HEHE...

WHICH ARE THE BAD THINGS, WHICH ARE THE GOOD THINGS,

AND, IT ALL BECOMES MEANING-LESS TO ME...

THERE IS A WHITE .....

A WHITE MEMBRANE COVERING EVERYTHING IN MY HEAD...

IT'S... IT'S LIKE...

I STILL RAN TOWARDS THE DIRTY CHOICES. I'M LIKE A STRAY DOG...

EVEN UNDER-STAND MY FEELINGS!?

CAN SOME-ONE LIKE YOU

DOING WHAT I BELIEVE IN,

BURNING UP,

I WANT TO BECOME A HAPPY PERSON THAT IS ABLE TO DO SUCH HAPPY THINGS!

WHAT!? THE DOOR WAS CLOSED SHUT!!

WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING!? OPEN THE DOOR!!

WHO DID THAT!?

IT SEEMS HE IS NOT HIDING ANYWHERE.

WHAT THE...? THERE IS NO ONE IN THIS CON-TAINER!

!!

LOOK!!

THERE'S ONLY THE PHONE!!

!!

KIDOU-KUN, I TOLD YOU ALREADY AT THE RESTAURANT,

"THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST MEAL."

YOU COULD NOT FULLY ABANDON THAT 100 MILLION YEN,

AND I ALSO SAID "YOU RUINED YOURSELF DUE TO YOUR RECKLESS APPETITE.", DIDN'T I?

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ANY DIAMONDS AND NEVER EVEN SAW ONE!

I DON'T KNOW!

HUH?

.. WHAT DO YOU MEAN DIAMONDS ...? HE? HEHE.. ?

EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE STOLEN THE DIAMONDS HIDDEN IN THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN...

I SWEAR TO GOD, I DON'T KNOW ANY OF THAT!

HUH?

I JUST PUT THOSE INTO THE TOILET GUY'S POCKET.

YOU CAN EVEN THOROUGHLY CHECK MY WHOLE BODY, I DON'T CARE!

THE GUY WHO S THE OWNER OF THESE CLOTHES, WHICH I NEEDED TO INFILTRATE THIS BOAT.

THE ONE IN THE TOILET AND

THERE ARE "TWO" CREW MEMBERS WHO ARE MISSING.

TRUTH IS, THE KEY TO THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN AND THE CELLPHONE WITH THE INFO ON THE DIAMONDS WERE HIDDEN IN THE OTHER GUY'S CLOTHES. NOT THE ONE IN THE TOILET. THOSE WERE NOTHING MORE THAN A PARTING GIFT TO YOU.

I ALREADY SAID IT... CAN'T YOU LISTEN CAREFULLY?

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? I HAVE NO IDEA... CAN YOU EXPLAIN IT MORE SIMPLY...

HUH?

"YOU RUINED YOURSELF DUE TO YOUR RECKLESS APPETITE."... DEVOURING ANYTHING, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT A RECKLESS APPETITE MEANS...

YOU'LL UNDER-STAND THAT I'M NOT HIDING ANY DIAMONDS ANYWHERE!!

IF YOU WANNA CHECK SO MUCH, THEN DO IT!

OKAY!

O...

OI OI. DID YOU REALLY BELIEVE WHAT THAT GUY SAID AT FACE VALUE!?

PRESS

PRESS

PRESS

HE... HEHE...

HE...

NO ONE WOULD EAT SOMETHING LIKE DIAMONDS... DID YOU REALLY BELIEVE HIM...?

I... I CAN'T

BREATHE ...

HEHE ...

O... OI...

I... I KNEW IT ALREADY... THAT THIS IS THE WAY SOMEONE LIKE ME WILL END...

LET'S...

O... OKAY...

SHARE THEM...

CRACK

CRACK

THE FEELINGS OF SOMEONE LIKE ME!!

YOU GUYS...

YOU PIECE OF SHIT!

THE DIA-MONDS.

GIVE BACK

UNDER-STAND THEM WELL...

CRACK

GE

BO

BO

BO

BO

BO BO

ARE THOSE DIAMONDS THAT IMPORTANT?

THAT IS

THEN YOU SHOULD "TAKE THOSE DIAMONDS AND LEAVE THE BOAT."
.....

YOUR LAST CHANCE.

PSS

PSS

PSS

CHAPTER 295
THE BACKLIT BEE

PSS SSSS

PSS SSSS

THEN IT'S NOT THE TIME TO IDLE AROUND!

COULD IT BE INSIDE THIS CONTAINER ...?

BURNING..... SOMETHING IS BURNING ..

YEAH.

.....

HEY... YOU SMELL SOMETHING?

IF YOU TIE IT TIGHTLY LIKE THIS, IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME TO UNKNOT IT.

TIE

THIS IS...

THE WIRE FOR THE OUTBOARD MOTOR ON THE LIFEBOAT.

HEY!

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

OPEN THE DOOR!

IF YOU GET IN MY WAY, I CAN'T GUARANTEE YOUR LIFE.

YOU BETTER DISEMBARK FROM THIS BOAT.

AS LONG AS YOU DON'T OBSTRUCT ME, THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEMS.

THEY'LL NEED TREAT-MENT.

YOU CAN OPEN THE CONTAINER AFTER YOU PICK UP THE DIAMONDS, AND SAVE YOUR ALLIES... HOWEVER,

THE CREW MEMBERS IN THERE WILL PASS OUT AFTER THEY INHALE THE SMOKE...

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG

SO,

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I'LL COMPLETE MY GOAL WHILE YOU'RE TREATING THEM.

HUR-HURRY... MY CONSCIOUS-NESS...

PEEK

VOJA!

OPEN THE DOOR! THE SMOKE IS...

VOJA!

SOMEONE! OPEN THE DOOR!

THERE'S SOME-THING NEEDED TO BE DONE BEFORE THAT.

CALM DOWN AND LISTEN CARE-FULLY.

DON'T WORRY. I'LL DEFINITELY OPEN THIS CONTAINER.

HE WON'T LEAVE UNTIL YOU GUYS COMPLETELY PASS OUT.

IF I TRY TO OPEN THE DOOR RIGHT NOW, HE'LL ATTACK ME.

IN ORDER TO KILL HIM,

CAN YOU USE THAT PICKAXE TO DIG ANOTHER HOLE?

NO... I... CAN'T...

THE REST OF YOU, GET DOWN IN FRONT OF THE DOOR. HURRY.

THEN, LET ONE PERSON BREATHE THROUGH THIS HOLE.

MOVE IT TO THE DOOR...

I BELIEVE THERE IS CEMENT AMONG THEM.

THERE ARE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS IN THIS CONTAINER.

EVERYONE OF YOU, TAKE OFF YOUR SHIRTS AND PUT THEM BESIDE THE CEMENT.

I'M AFRAID YOU WON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO SEARCH FOR IT.

THE REASON THAT YOU CAN'T FIND THE SOURCE OF THE FIRE IS BECAUSE IT'S BURNING UNSUS-PICIOUSLY INSIDE SOME BOX.

I NEED YOUR GUYS' HELP.

NOT GONNA HAPPEN.

BE-SIDES,

IS IT REALLY OKAY

YOUR CHOICE WON'T BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR ALLIES' LIVES...

TO NOT PICK UP THE DIAMONDS?

DIA-MONDS ...

WON'T RUN AWAY.

NEITHER WILL THEY.

THIS... MOVE-MENT...

TAK

TAK

FLIES PAST

FLIES PAST

THUD

THIS WEIRD MOVE-MENT

I REMEMBER IT NOW.

*SYSTEMA IS A RUSSIAN MARTIAL ART.

IS *SYSTEMA, RIGHT?

CLACK

CLACK

INCREDIBLE STRENGTH.....

THAT'S... SOME...

CLACK

!!

SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
AT THAT TIME,
WHAT WAS INSIDE THE CON TAINER WAS..
THESE ARE STOLEN GOODS ? FOR ILLEGAL RESELLING?
THESE CONTAINERS HAVE BEEN ON THIS BOAT FROM THE START IT SEEMS THEY HAVE BEEN SHIPPING WEAPONS AROUND THE WORLD...
GRRR
IT'S USED TO SUPPRESS RIOTS OR BLOCK BRIDGES.
ANTI TRACTION GEL.. IT'S ALSO CALLED THE "MOBILITY DENIAL SYSTEM"
DECREASE.
AFTER AN OBJECT TOUCHES THE GEL, ITS FRICTION WILL DRASTICALLY
IT'S A NON-LETHAL WEAPON THAT WAS CREATED FOR THE AMERICAN NAVY.
SPLASH

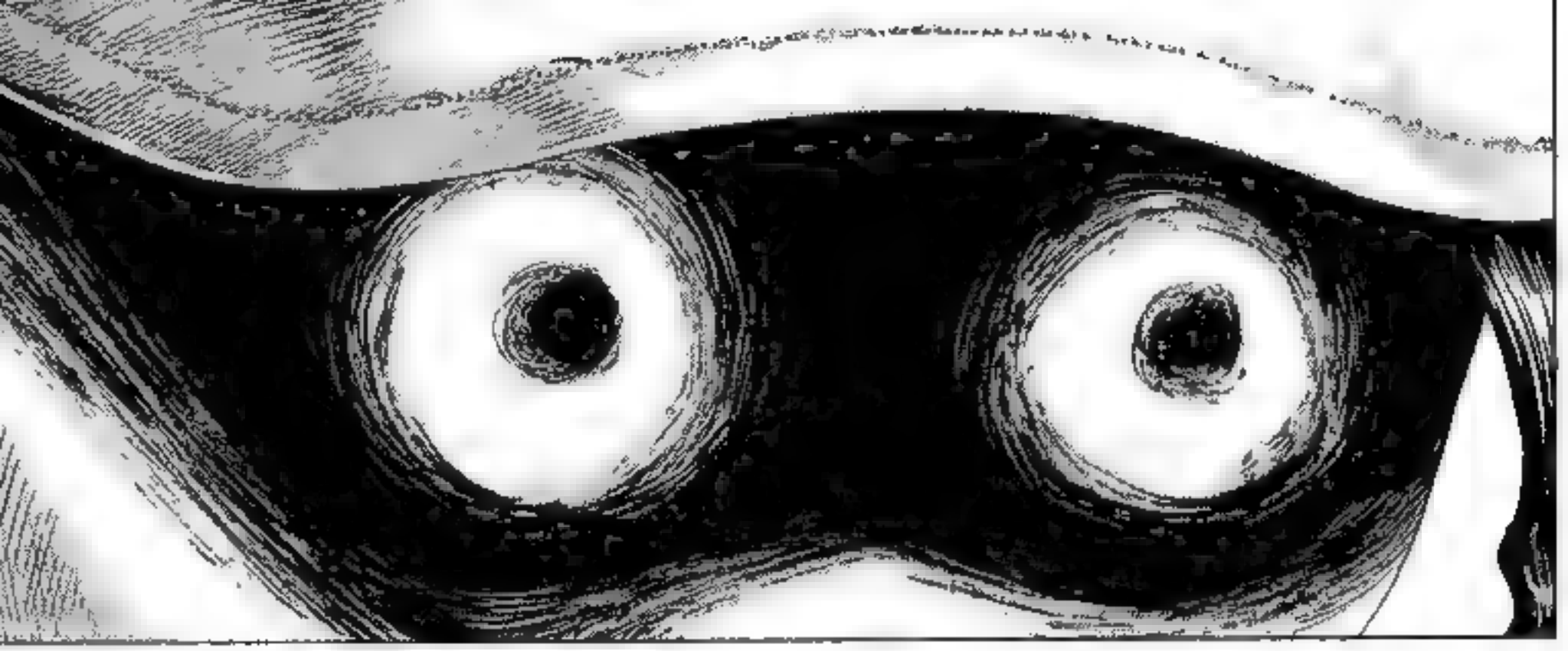
EFFECTIVE ENOUGH TO STICK TO TIRES AND STOP CARS FROM MOVING.

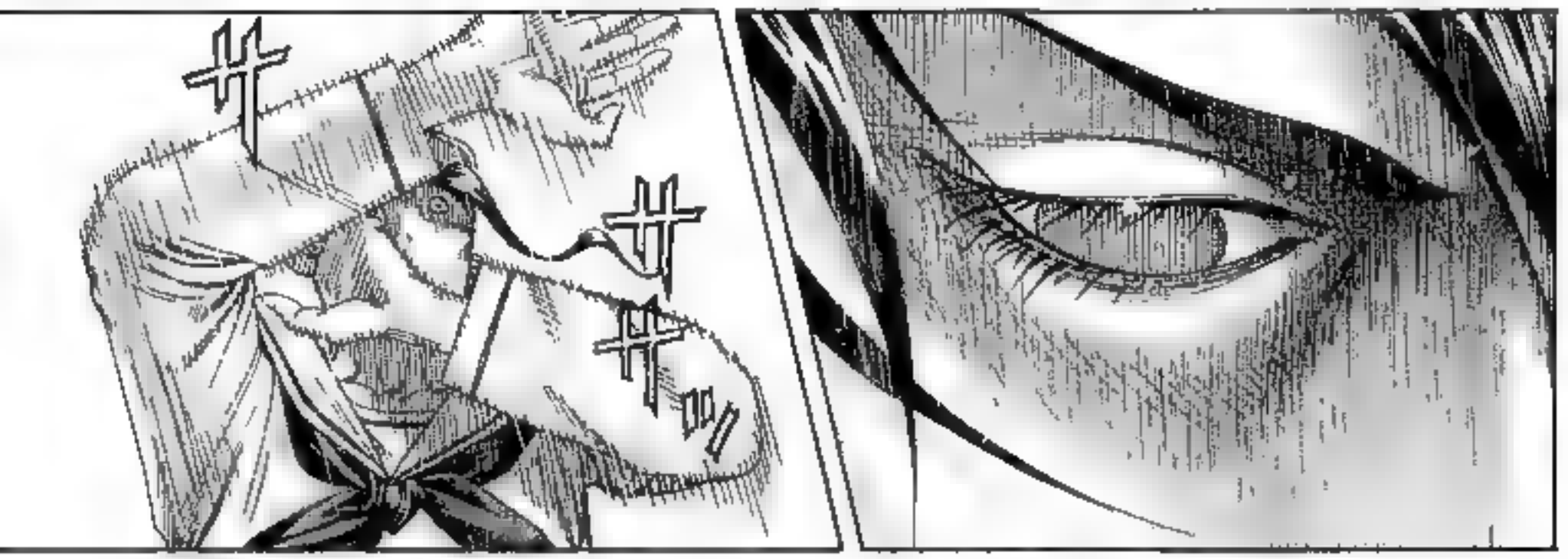
AND IT IS

IN OTHER WORDS,

IT SLIPS.

!!





STAB

S-

PLASH

KU...

!

MISS

OOFUNA-KUN,

YOU'RE PRESERVING THE CHANCE TO SINK THE CRUISER, AREN'T YOU?

IN OTHER WORDS,

×								
D								
D		×						
			×					
C				×				
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BECAUSE THAT PHONE CAN GIVE YOU NEW INFORMATION ANY TIME...

!

HE... HE NOTICED IT...

AND GET A VOLLEY OF FIRE...

YOU WANT TO SINK 2 SHIPS IN A ROW AFTER YOU FIND A NEW SHIP,

I HAVE TO FOCUS ON DOING WHAT I HAVE TO.

AND, IT ALSO MEANS THAT "YOU DON'T KNOW THE PLACEMENTS OF MY OTHER SHIPS"... BUT I WON'T LET MY GUARD DOWN.

HIT THE LAST CELL OF THE DESTROYER.

AFTER-WARDS, CAPTAIN LACY

ALRIGHT, TELL ME...

WHERE THE SHIP IS.

AND SANK IT.

IT'S STILL CAPTAIN LACY'S TURN.

REFEREE MOGAMI,

I'LL USE... THE REST OF...

.....

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, IT WON'T MATTER ANYMORE.

IF I CAN SINK ANOTHER ONE, IT'D BE A CONSECUTIVE SINKING... IT'LL BE GREAT TO GET ONE MORE VOLLEY OF FIRE, BUT IN ORDER TO GET A MORE ACCURATE REACTION, RIGHT NOW I SHOULD...

THE VOLLEY OF FIRE.

NONETHELESS, CAPTAIN LACY IS STILL ON AN UNSHAKABLE AND ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION.

THE KEY TO SOLVING THAT PUZZLE IS ON YOU.

TO SAY WHICH ONE IS "MORE EFFECTIVE" IN THIS MATCH, WITHOUT A DOUBT, IT'LL BE OOFUNA'S TRICK...

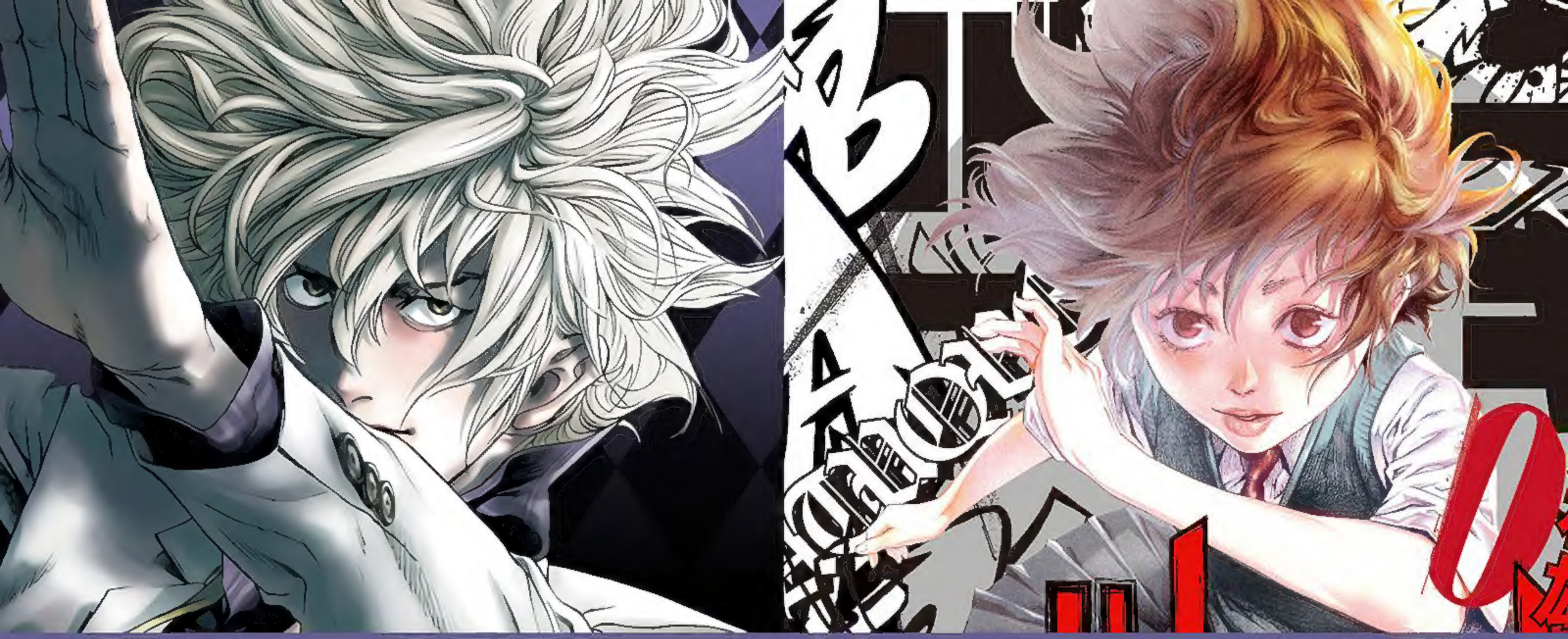
THE TRICK OF OOFUNA, AND THE TRICK OF THE CAPTAIN,

BUT... IN MY OPINION,

sako toshio
illustration gallery

TSK
TSK

NO WAY! ONE CAN ONLY HAVE ONE STAND!
?



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